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HOME NEWS

Amusement arcades ruled out as main cause of truancy

By a Staff Reporter

Amusement arcades are not the primary, or even a serious, cause of truancy and juvenile crime, a report commissioned by the Churches' Council on Gambling, stated yesterday.

The report gives the findings of a study lasting 18 months in England and Wales. Mr. Arthur Taylor, a former under-secretary at the Treasury and a former chairman of the Horse-race Totalisator Board.

Mr. Taylor found that the number of amusement arcades was much smaller than he expected, 350 to 400 in the whole country, of which at least a hundred were in holiday resorts and therefore not directly tied to school truancy.

In addition, he estimated there were about 10,000 premises, such as cafés, but not including public houses or clubs, that provided one or two amusement machines.

The estimated number of school truants on any one day between £5,000 and 170,000, even taking the lowest estimate, there were far too many to pack inside the 300 or so amusement arcades.

In the course of a total of 28 visits by volunteers to 14 arcades throughout the country, only 76 unaccompanied children had been seen, an average of about three children a visit.

"There is no evidence that the lure of amusement arcades is the, or indeed a primary, cause of truancy," the report concludes. "Apart from other considerations, the number of children to be found in them at any one time is too few to lend support to any such conclusion."

The report refers to the suggestion that children may become addicted to playing the machines that they are induced

to steal to support their gambling habit. But a study of police cautions and convictions of children for theft in a given area showed no significant relationship to the accessibility of amusement arcades.

In general, the report did not find much evidence that children got into bad company at amusement arcades. Of 31 London boroughs and 59 county boroughs which were asked whether they had any evidence of "undesirable social effects" after the provision of amusement facilities, only five believed there were.

At a press conference yesterday to launch his report Mr. Taylor suggested that relatively few children haunted amusement arcades and most of those were doing so not as incipient gamblers but because they were bored with other pastimes.

The survey found that most children concentrated their attention on games of skill rather than on fruit machines and other money-winning games.

The most critical thing the report finds is that they lead children to spend their time and pocket-money in directions "that are at best wholly lacking in purpose, and some would say, invidious and debilitating pastimes."

Mr. Taylor said some of his friends had laughingly accused him of whitewashing amusement arcades. He denied that, likening his task to describing a tiger in a cage. He was not saying the tiger was a cuddly beast, but that the cage was strong so there was no need to fear it.

Amusements with prizes. The Churches' Council on Gambling, 100, Cannon Road, Cookham, Maidenhead, Berkshire, 43p.

Childless wife took baby from home

A woman whose longing for children led her to take a baby from an adoption home was given a conditional discharge for 12 months at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Judge Abdala, QC, told Mrs. Clodagh Dean, aged 38, that she could get medical help to have her own child.

Mrs. Dean, of Derby Road, Coalbrookdale, Salop, had admitted taking by force or fraud Victoria Faulkner, aged one month, with intent to deprive the children's home of the child's lawful care.

Mr. John Nutting, for the prosecution, said the baby was taken from St. Hilary's Nursery, Beckenham, Kent, in September. Mrs. Dean was unable to have children of her own. She first married in 1959, and five years later she conceived but the baby was born prematurely and died after 12 hours. As a result the marriage failed and was dissolved.

Mr. Nutting said Mrs. Dean married her present husband, who had two children by a former marriage.

Although the children came to visit Mrs. Dean twice a week, she became increasingly obsessed with the idea of having a baby.

In December last year, she pretended to her husband that she was having a baby. She told him she had arranged to have the child in a hospital at Southport, Merseyside, knowing that he would not be able to visit her there.

When the time for the birth came she went instead to Beckenham, having read that a child's home there was short of staff.

She made a £10 donation and asked if she could be shown round. Then she asked if she could be allowed to feed one of the babies, the court was told.

Mrs. Dean was allowed to nurse Victoria Faulkner, who had been placed in the home two weeks earlier by her mother.

The mother was making up her mind whether to keep the child or have her adopted.

Mrs. Dean had gone to the home wearing a wig, and gave a false name and address, Mr. Nutting said.

She arranged for a taxi to be waiting and took the baby outside in a holdall. Then she drove to Blackpool.

But when the baby's disappearance had been discovered, Blackpool police were alerted, and Mrs. Dean was stopped at a roadblock.

Later Mrs. Dean told Det. Chief Inspector Peter Bradbury that she had been allowed to nurse the baby.

"It seems so wrong she should lie there unwanted in a home when I could give her so much love and affection," her statement went on.

"I know what I have done is wrong and I am ashamed of myself," Inspector Bradbury said Mrs. Dean had at one time been a court journalist.

Her husband was a highly paid managing director of a building company.

Mr. Andrew Goymer, for the defence, said Mrs. Dean genuinely believed that the child was unwanted. She believed herself ineligible to adopt a child legally because she was too old and had been divorced.

The judge said he was alarmed at that belief. He suggested that Mrs. Dean should be given assistance with an application for adoption and medical help.

Cases of child-stealing were regarded seriously by the courts and would normally attract a sentence of up to seven years, but this was an exceptional case.



People in Sark, the car-less Channel Island, trying out their first "bus". Tractor drivers will tender to operate it on the steep half-mile Harbour Hill road.

Training centre experiments may lead to penal system changes

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

First results are being studied of two experiments in Sheffield which are important to the future of the penal system. Instead of being held in custody, 100 men have gone to a bail hostel or day training centre run by the probation service.

The bail hostel provides accommodation for men who would otherwise have been remanded in custody. The training centre is attended for a total of 60 days as part of a longer period of probation, instead of the man going to prison.

Tough initial results must be treated with caution and methods are still evolving. 30 out of 42 men have committed no further offence in up to a year since completing their training at the centre. About half have obtained jobs, although their previous employment records have been erratic and in some cases seemingly hopeless.

The hostel and centre are comfortable, former YWCA hostels, liberally carpeted, relaxed in atmosphere, and a civilized contrast to prison.

The centre, which was opened in March, 1973, is run as a small community, in which the behaviour of one man can be criticized by the rest.

Two offenders to whom I spoke were discussing whether men who did not turn up for sessions should be "fined" out of their weekly allowance. All have a say in the way the centre is run.

For some, having to assume responsibility for their own actions comes as a shock. Many have spent so much time in institutions that they have forgotten how to think for themselves.

All had committed indictable offences before and had little chance of staying out of trouble. For one, aged 23, it was his first lengthy period of liberty since the age of eight.

Out of 70 who have come to the centre, 18 have committed further offences during the course of their training. Most have been a repetition of petty offences, such as being drunk and disorderly or petty theft.

Wives are also encouraged to come to the centre, which is looking for a suitable woman probation officer to help discuss the pressures to which families are subjected.

Like the bail hostel, the centre has still to get all the support it needs from magistrates, and so many men suitable for consideration are still being sent to prison.

Both experiments have also shown that the original conception may well have been

too rigid, which certainly seems to be the case with the period of 60 days for which each man has been sent to the centre. There is a need to match more exactly each man's requirements, which is something that can be judged only by his response to treatment.

The rule that a man at the bail hostel has to be in by 11 p.m. can make the statistics seem slightly misleading. The fact that 10 of the 23 who have gone to the hostel since it opened in July have absconded "deserves further examination."

Some were no more than late in returning. Others found the restriction hard to observe after a nomadic life, for 14 out of the 23 had no fixed address. After an early spate of absconding, numbers have fallen.

The biggest argument in favour of the hostel is that, of the 10 men who have returned to court for disposal, only two have gone to prison. Yet without the hostel, all could well have been remanded in custody.

Four have gone to probation hostels, two have been put on probation with a requirement to attend the day training centre, one has had a suspended prison sentence, and one was allowed to return home at a subsequent court appearance.

Hit-bridge-and-run lorries threaten railway safety

By Michael Bailey

Transport Correspondent

Heavy lorries with high loads hitting railway bridges are a growing threat to rail safety, the chief inspecting officer of railways says in his latest report.

About 750 incidents occurred last year and the number is growing steadily with lorries carrying containers, construction plant, and steel girders among the worst offenders. One lorry knocked a bridge parapet on to the main line, carrying the overhead electric equipment with it and disrupting services.

In the Irish Republic a train was derailed by lorry damage. The inspector, Colonel I. K.

McNaughton, says some drivers drive on without notifying anyone after hitting a bridge.

Drivers must ascertain the height of their load and ensure that it is properly secured. Warning signs are being put on bridges, with black and yellow stripes on the most risky.

Malicious damage is also causing concern and the public are urged to report immediately any trespasser is seen on the line.

Although vandalism was slightly down on the previous year, incidents were still three times higher than a decade ago.

Railway Accidents: Report to the Secretary of State for the Environment on the Safety Record of the Railways in Britain during the year 1973. (Stationery Office, 55p).

Councils will get power over use of suspect cement

By Our Planning Reporter

The Government moved yesterday to discourage, rather than ban, the use of high alumina cement in the construction industry.

Amendments to the 1972 Building Regulations, which come into force on January 31 next, state that structural work using high alumina cement will be "deemed to satisfy" the regulations. That means that enforcing authorities will not have any statutory obligation to approve plans involving its use, although they may still do so in cases where they feel it would be a suitable material.

The Department of the Environment said yesterday that it had considered the possibility of prohibiting the use of the material in all structural work. But after consultations with the Building Research Establishment and other interested bodies it had decided on a less drastic step.

Public concern about the safety of high alumina cement was first aroused by the collapse of a roof beam over a school swimming pool in Stepney. Local authorities were ordered to carry out extensive checks of buildings after it had been found that the material was subject to chemical deterioration which might affect its load-bearing capacity.

Second man accused. A second man, Arthur Jones, aged 21, unemployed, of Westbourne Avenue, Hull, has been charged with the murder of Miss Mona Dibb, aged 75, a shopkeeper, of Melwood Grove, Hull.

Five get bail on charge involving Mr Dan Smith

From Our Correspondent

Northampton. Ronald Dilleigh, aged 49, leader of Northampton Borough Council, was one of five people who appeared before local magistrates yesterday on a fraud charge involving T. Dan Smith, the Northern businessman.

In the dock with Mr. Dilleigh, a director of Graspian Lane, Northampton, were his secretary, Carol Trusler, aged 55, of Kingsley Road, Northampton, chairman of the Northamptonshire county council social services committee; Neil Hodson, aged 33, office manager, of Sherwood Avenue, Northampton; David Powell, aged 30, electrical estimator, of Warwick Road, Hantslope, Buckinghamshire; and Thomas Ellison, aged 39, electrical engineer, of Longdin Street, Warrington, Cheshire.

They were charged that together with T. Dan Smith between September 20, 1971, and March 21, 1973, being officers of Dilson Electrical Ltd. they carried on the business of the company with intent to defraud its creditors. Dilson went into voluntary liquidation last year with an estimated deficit of £98,693.

The five were remanded until February 12 on bail of £1,000 with one surety of £5,000 or two sureties of £2,500 each. It was disclosed that one of Mr. Dilleigh's sureties is Mrs. Reginald Paget, wife of the former Labour MP for Northampton who was given a life peerage in the recent Dissolution Honours.

Mr. Dilleigh, Mrs. Trusler and Mr. Hodson were represented by Mr. David Walmesley, chairman of Northamptonshire county council education committee and a Tory member of Northampton borough council. He said they would all plead not guilty. They are to apply for legal aid. The five defendants were arrested on Saturday.

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Jail canteen orange juice spiced with vodka

Prisoners at Camp Hill of Wight, were especially on the orange juice sold in canteen. The staff did not it was laced with vodka, a Ganatra, for the Director of Public Prosecutions, told magistrates at Newport 1 day. Other comforts, he included a flow of tobacco and letters out.

The prison's former chairman, Mark Fishburn, age Northwood, Cowes, pl guilty to two charge smuggling vodka and into the prison, another of ing letters out, and three of property. He was fined and ordered to pay £26.

Mr. Ganatra said the cover traffic went on for months until Mr. Fishburn misal in September.

prisoners ran out of more would accept letters, arr for relatives and friends settle drink and tobacco t.

He added: "Vodka whi brought in was mixed w orange juice. It was prac impossible to detect."

Miss Marjorie White, f defence, said Mr. Fishburn a prisoner tobacco as a gi was then threatened exposure unless he acce become an under-cer c Eventually, at his wife's c confessed to the govern

Bill to permit local lotteries

Under a private me Bill published yesterday, all-party backing, local at ties could promote lotter to relieve the burden on rate. (Our Political Staff write

the Bill through the Cor last session is reintroduc One lottery a month was permitted, with a lim proceeds.

Actress given court a charge

Eunice Gayson, actress Haslemere, Surrey, was a conditional discharge for years, and ordered to pay costs at Farnham yest. She had admitted stealing bottles of shoe conditione 13 bottles of shoe colouring Woolworth's.

Mr. Brian Argyle said Gayson had suffered beca publicity and because of "breaking aspects" of her marriage.

Gas ship cleared

The Asiafreighter, the tanker ship, has been ch cleared of the leaking gas which made some crew ill, and has res normal trading, her owner yesterday.

Father charged

Edward Campbell, age a baker, of Fawcett E Clapton, London, was rem in custody at North L Magistrates' Court yest charged with murdering of his children and atten to murder two more December 6.

Government hands extra £1.75m to Arts Council

By Kenneth Gosling

Arts Reporter

The arts are to get £1.75m more by way of a supplementary Estimate for the Arts Council which was laid before Parliament yesterday. It will mean a total recurrent grant of £20,785,000 for 1974-75 for the council.

The figure of £1.75m is based on a revised view by the Government of increases since the beginning of the financial year in pay and prices as they relate to the council's recurrent grant. The council will shortly begin to work out how best the addi-

dional money, if provided, is to be disbursed.

Sir Hugh Willatt, secretary of the council, said extra cash would thus be used to meet deficits of ported organizations. "I put them in much better and is a welcome indicati the Government's attitude to the arts," he said.

Losses incurred by added tax for 1973-74 partly offset, earlier this when the Arts Council rec £750,000 from the Govern about half the loss. The cll's estimates for 1975-76 be presented to Parliament next year.

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EST EUROPE

Dutch plan to swap
atom bases for Soviet
links upsets Nato

Henry Stanhope
Paris, Dec 9
A united front presented by Western allies at the Vienna summit on troop reductions was threatened by the Dutch proposal which wants to discontinue the use of the Convent of the Holy Spirit in exchange for a withdrawal of Soviet tanks. The proposal will be put forward by Mr Henk Vredeling the Dutch Defence Minister, at the meeting of the NATO planning group, and will be discussed by Mr van der Stoep, the Foreign Minister, at the NATO Ministerial meeting on Thursday Friday.

Lance tactical nuclear missile from the Americans, is likely to oppose the Dutch suggestion. On the other hand, Dr Schlesinger, the American Defence Secretary, did say on flying into Brussels today that if the systems were to be discussed anywhere, then he thought Vienna was the right place. But there was no indication at this stage that it would be included—and it is thought unlikely that the Americans would want to.

The Dutch motives for introducing such a hot issue are thought to be purely the result of domestic politics.

Meanwhile at today's meeting of the Eurogroup, Mr Mason, Britain's Defence Secretary, made a strong plea for the standardization of Nato arms procurement.

In particular, he urged Nato states to make use of collaborative arms projects which were already in an advanced stage of development. He cited the Anglo-German-Italian 155mm howitzer, the Anglo-French helicopter, the British light-weight anti-submarine torpedo, and the Franco-German Milan anti-tank guided weapon.

Standardization seems to have been the principal theme of this Eurogroup meeting, which unlike its predecessors has been remarkably free from American pressure to increase Europe's contribution to Nato.

This is primarily because of the great effort which has been made during the past 12 months to remove the argument over burden-sharing which has blighted Nato unity for so long.

Mr Mason is also understood to have told the Eurogroup that the British contribution to Nato defence has been increased up until 1974 despite the fact that Britain's deficit on defence spending, measured as a proportion of the country's gross national product, was double that of the United States.

So far the Nine have been largely sympathetic
with Britain but they are getting fed up
At the summit of Community's patience

From David Spenser
Paris, Dec 9

The European Community is heartily fed up with the British. If you ask a diplomat or a foreign journalist what they think of Mr Wilson and his renegotiation, you get a shrug of incomprehension. "We don't say the French were right about you British," a senior European delegate confided, "but we do think they were not all that wrong."

The disengagement in the air around the Giscard d'Estaing, where the ministers are meeting, is not all Britain's fault. It arises from the sense of futility which nearly all European countries feel these days as they survey the social and economic scene around them.

The particular sense of Déjà vu which people feel about the British attitude arises because this renegotiation seems all so irrelevant. It has nothing to do with the Community itself, it is, as *Le Monde* comments today, a British affair.

After all the ink that has been spilled, very few people in the

Community understand what renegotiation is about. They may grasp intellectually that the Labour Party is a curious and complicated organization and that Labour Party politics are what lie behind renegotiation, but still they cannot see why the Labour Party, beloved as it may be, seems to be so obstructive about Europe.

One may point out that, in reality, Britain has not held up the Community, that we have participated as best we can in all the programmes in Brussels.

"If only you could make up your minds one way or the other," a diplomat who knows England well remarked, "first of all we were stuck because you were not in the Community and now we are stuck because you are in the Community."

It is also rather resented that the British Government says so little on the credit side of the Community. It is ready enough to table its list of changes in renegotiation. But what about the cheaper food which Britain has gained from

being in the Community? Why does not someone talk about that, too?

This summit, one feels, marks the end of the renegotiation process, one way or the other. Up to now, the other member states have cooperated, broadly speaking, in helping the British team in Brussels to make the kind of adjustments the Government wants.

At the summit, we may get the decision on principle that Mr Wilson wants on our budget contribution, which will ensure that no country pays more than its fair share.

But this will be our last chance. After this British pleas for special consideration will not be entertained. There will be a few more meetings in Brussels to tie up loose ends and we shall then have to like it or lump it.

What is perhaps remarkable is that despite all the arguments and prevarications on our side of the Channel, the other members of the Community still say they want us to play the game, if only we would play fair.

European
MPs list
essentials
for unity

By George Clark
Political Correspondent
Luxembourg, Dec 9

The European Parliament in Luxembourg today approved a resolution calling attention to what it regards as the essential issues on which European unity must be achieved.

Moved by Signor Giovanni Giarola, a Christian Democrat from Italy and chairman of the political affairs committee, the resolution emphasized the need for action that would win popular support for Community ideals. But its call to the heads of government was couched in general terms.

The British Conservative delegation did not join in the debate on the ground that the European Parliament will have a bigger impact on events if it waits for the outcome of the Paris summit and then weighs in with its comments.

Today's resolution, approved by a remarkably thin House, called for new policies to fight inflation, to preserve a high level of employment and to protect workers' earnings, as well as for an effective European energy policy and a regional development fund "with sufficient resources to aid the less favoured regions of the Community."

'I can't face
my future'

'I'm hungry, I live in a slum, have no hope of being properly educated and little chance of growing up to enjoy a decent life. Please help me!'

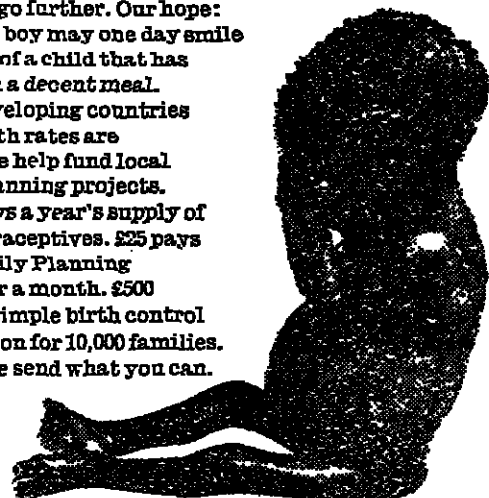
The world's population is growing faster than our ability to provide our teeming millions with food, housing, education, jobs and medical care. At Population CountDown we're trying to help in a unique and lasting way.

We're sponsored by the Family Planning Association and we're raising funds to help people understand the need to limit the size of their families.

The result: the food and natural resources we have will go further. Our hope: this little boy may one day smile the smile of a child that has just eaten a decent meal.

In developing countries where birth rates are highest we help fund local family planning projects.

\$5 buys a year's supply of oral contraceptives. \$25 pays for a Family Planning worker for a month. \$500 provides simple birth control information for 10,000 families. Please send what you can.



Population CountDown

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Soviet block's forces are more mobile

Our Defence correspondent
Paris, Dec 9
Military intelligence has seen an "enormous increase" in the Soviet Union's use of air and ground troops to move troops to their positions in Eastern Europe.

Staff were told at a meeting of the alliance's military committee here today that indicated a "continuing movement" in the Russian ability to reinforce their hard area positions at short notice.

The six-monthly report on the raw pact stated that the raw posture of the forces remained in low key, and force field training exercises seemed to have been extensive and at a lower level than in recent years and activity had followed a line pattern.

The mobility of ground forces was continuously being improved and there was a steady growth in ground based anti-aircraft defences.

The Russians had continued to use the base facilities in Cuba and at Conakry for their long-range maritime patrol aircraft, thus increasing their ability to carry out maritime surveillance in the Atlantic.

Between 50 and 60 Soviet ships had remained on station in the Mediterranean but the number of major warships in the Atlantic had gone down.

However, there had been an increase in the activities of intelligence-gathering vessels.

In the Indian Ocean Soviet naval forces had improved in quantity and quality but this was partly explained by the minesweeper force which had been at work in the Gulf of Suez.

The report also noted "considerable improvement" in Soviet-Egyptian relations, although the level of arms supplied to Cairo seemed lower than in 1973.

In addition to the reinforcement of Syria forces with weapon systems like the MiG23 aircraft and the 185-mile range Scud surface-to-surface missile, there had also been Soviet arms shipments to Iraq, Somalia and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

The report said in conclusion that, "whilst on the political level the Soviet Union pursues a policy of détente, there is no sign that the word détente has any real meaning for the military part of the Warsaw Pact. In fact, they continue to maintain strong forces in a high state of readiness in order to negotiate with the West from a position of strength."

German move
promote
détente in Berlin

Our Correspondent
Berlin, Dec 9
East Germany announced today that visits by West Berliners to East Berlin and East Germany would be facilitated and tested negotiations on movements in traffic by rail road between the city and East Germany.

Other proposals for improvement embraced energy supplies for West Berlin, the opening of a canal and the finalization of an agreement on the piping of the city's rubbish to East Germany.

An aide-memoire listing all points was handed to Herr von Schütz, the chief burgomaster, this morning by Drachim Midank, acting on all of the East German government. The document said its introduction by the East to promote détente and further normalization of relations between East Germany and West Berlin.

Gibraltar mail strike

A postal strike in Gibraltar halted mail services to and from Britain. Mail will be expected in Britain to be delayed after the dispute, a Post Office spokesman said.

Portugal starts compiling
list of voters for March

From Our Correspondent
Lisbon, Dec 9
Portugal began registering its estimated five-and-a-half million voters today for the elections next March. The voters will elect deputies to a constituent assembly which will draw up the future constitution of Portugal.

Elections for a permanent legislative body will take place later.

Most citizens who are aged 18 or over are entitled to vote under the recently promulgated electoral law. Registration as a voter is compulsory, and non-registration entails a penalty.

Illiterate people and certain categories of immigrants will be able to vote, but criminals who are serving their sentences and high officials of the former regime have been disenfranchised.

Rescuer dies in snow grave

Mittenwald, West Germany, Dec 9.—A 17-year-old mountain rescue worker was found dead under an avalanche of snow today after rescue practice had turned into reality.

A rescue team of 400 men found the body of Georg Batista after searching for more than 24 hours.

Another youth of 16 who,

along with Herr Batista, had buried himself under five feet of snow in the mock rescue exercise was dug out alive earlier today after being trapped for 20 hours 18 feet below the surface. He was taken to hospital suffering from exposure and doctors were hopeful he would survive.—Reuter.

Strikers hold a 'funeral'
for French TV service

Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Dec 9
A "funeral service" was held today on the steps of the Paris Opera by artists and musicians ORTF, the French state television and radio network, who on strike over the organization's demise, set by the Government for the end of the year.

The bearers of the "coffin" ORTF, all dressed in black and accompanied by a *fidjow*, wore masks closely resembling the features of President Giscard d'Estaing, by blaming him for the Act placing ORTF by six separate broadcasting companies.

The strikers, several hundred ORTF's artistic and technical staff, all wore black armbands and carried banners accusing the Government of creating unemployment and seeking to gain a higher control over broadcasting.

ORTF journalists have decided to go on strike again day over redundancies which

the Government claims have now been reduced to less than 220 out of a permanent staff of 1,100. Only skeleton programmes were transmitted.

As the Government struggles to get through the next three weeks despite the difficulties—some studio technicians making material for the Christmas season have been on strike for a fortnight—two critics of the break-up of ORTF spoke out today.

M. Arthur Conte, who was director-general under President Pompidou, warned the heads of the new companies that they would have to achieve miracles now if the public was to receive a better service.

On the eve of a senate inquiry into the ORTF dispute tomorrow, a Communist senator, M. Jean Cluzel, who usually supports the Government, has questioned the change. He is strongly critical of the fact that the state will take 60 per cent of licence payments.

Halt agreed in
work on
Channel tunnel

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Dec 9
The French Government has proposed to Britain that they should "stop the clock" at December 31 over certain joint obligations regarding the building of the Channel tunnel.

At the same time, in a letter sent by M. Marcel Cavallie, the French Secretary of State for Transport, to Mr Anthony Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, Paris insists that it remains "extremely attached" to the realization of the project and to continuing present work on both sides of the Channel.

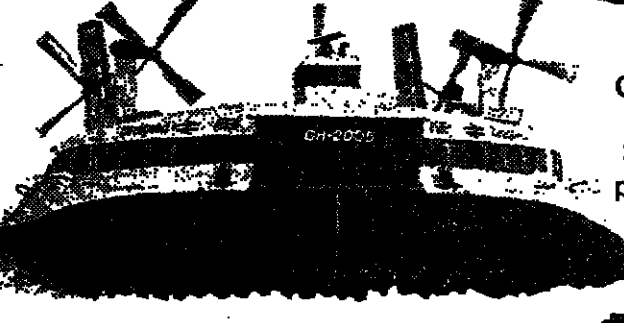
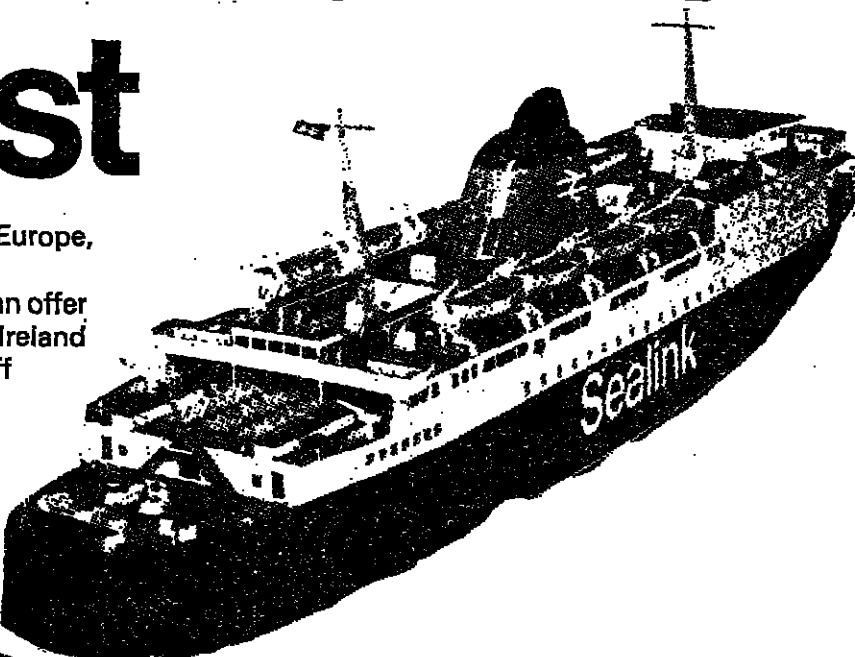
The French have agreed to grant a delay while the British Government studies the question of building the new fast line from London to the coast near Dover.

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 **British Rail**

PARLIAMENT, December 9, 1974

Energy saving package: petrol to bear brunt of next price increases: heating standards set for offices

House of Commons

MR VARLEY, Secretary of State for Energy (Conservative, Lab.), in a statement on energy saving, said: This year our import bill for oil is likely to exceed £3,500m. By the end of the present decade we should no longer be importers of energy. We are almost the only major industrial country in the western world which has this prospect. Nevertheless, the need to reduce our import bill, and at the same time our dependence on imported fuel, is acute.

The need to save energy has been widely recognized abroad. Conservation programmes have already been announced by some other countries, and we are co-operating in the International Energy Agency and in the Community in considering different conservation measures.

Progress has of course already been made. It is estimated, for example, that the volume of conservation measures this year have already saved about 2 per cent of our normal energy consumption—about £150m at current import prices.

These savings are a good beginning. But we need to do much more in the years ahead. The Chancellor of the Exchequer made it clear in his Budget statement that the Government intend to ensure that energy prices are brought as quickly as possible to a level which reflects true costs. The best advice we have is that a move to such prices might save at least £1,000m a year. This is a move—on our import bill in a full year.

To rely on the price mechanism alone is not enough. The Government have therefore considered what further steps they can take to reinforce the pressures of price.

My Advisory Council on Energy Conservation has already produced a number of suggestions for the Government to consider and its

work will grow and develop over the months and years ahead. The measures and proposals I announce today therefore must be regarded as an interim package which we intend to extend and reinforce in the future.

Investment loans

The measures the Government has decided to adopt are now—

(1) To introduce a loan scheme which will provide a source of finance for energy saving investment in industry, to ensure that such investments are not held back by cash flow problems. Loans will be at rates of interest comparable with those under the Industrial Act. I expect to make available £3m a year for this purpose. Full details of the scheme will be announced shortly.

(2) The Government will use their powers to ensure that the next round of oil price increases bears more heavily on motor spirit than on other oil products. This move will seek further to encourage imports of motor spirit and crude oil used to produce motor spirit, which currently cost about £500m a year.

Details will be announced when the Price Commission has finished its work on the present round of company applications for price increases.

(3) The Government has reviewed the programme for reducing the lead content of petrol. The reduction which took effect on November 1 has added more than £10m a year to our import bill and further stages of the programme could be very much more expensive than this.

We do not intend to go back on what has been done so far but have decided that a decision on further reductions should not be made before a thorough review of all the medical and economic implications of proceeding with the programme has been undertaken.

(4) About three million tons of coal equivalent a year is used in Government civil and defence buildings. The Property Services Agency expect to save 6 per cent of the energy consumption estimated as being planned to spend, over the next few years, up to £5m a year on improved control equipment, draught-proofing and additional insulation. These and other measures aim to achieve eventually savings of around £20m a year, or more than 20 per cent of current expenditure in this area.

The Ministry of Defence expect, given normal weather, to achieve their target of saving in the current financial year 10 per cent of fuel oil and 6 per cent of other forms of energy.

(5) Public authorities other than Government, for example local authorities, use some 17 million tons of coal equivalent a year. A further 20 million tons is estimated to be used in public sector housing. The Government are opening urgent discussions with local authorities and others concerned to see how far and in what ways savings can be achieved in this important sector of our life.

(6) Speed limits: excessive speeds waste petrol, as well as causing accidents. The Government have therefore decided to reduce the maximum speed limits on single carriageway roads to 50 mph and on dual carriageways other than motorways to 60 mph. Speed limits on motorways will remain unchanged.

(7) Heating levels: compulsory limits on heating levels in buildings other than living accommodation and a limited range of further exemptions designed to protect the young, the old, the sick, the disabled and certain types of material and equipment. These standards will involve a maximum heating level of 68°F (68°F). Substantial savings can also be

made in private households, and these will be just as valuable as those in industry and commerce. I appeal for the maximum voluntary savings which will be achieved.

(8) The Government recognize the need for improved insulation in private dwellings. The Secretary of State for the Environment has today laid an order which will have the effect of approximately doubling the standards of thermal insulation required in new dwellings.

(9) In all areas of our national life greater attention needs to be focused on the careful use of energy. My Advisory Council on Energy Saving has already produced a number of suggestions for the Government to consider and its

work will grow and develop over the months and years ahead. The measures and proposals I announce today therefore must be regarded as an interim package which we intend to extend and reinforce in the future.

(10) Both management and employee representatives engaged in joint consultation in industry and commerce should be encouraged to make a regular subject for practical discussion energy saving to early and effective action.

I have written to the CBI and to the Association of British Chambers of Commerce asking them to make energy saving a subject for their full support, and I have written similarly to the TUC on the important contribution which union representatives can make through joint consultations.

(11) I have decided to restrict the use of electricity for external lighting and advertising purposes during daylight hours. The neces-

sary orders for this and the proposed heating standards will be laid shortly and will come into effect after the new year holiday period.

It is not proposed to have flood lighting at this time. I would, however, ask those concerned to consider urgently in the new year whether the lights so used are really necessary outside the hours when they have maximum impact.

(12) Finally, to promote and reinforce action in all these areas, the Government will, over the months ahead, develop a publicity campaign to inform and advise industry and commerce, motorists and households on how they can help themselves and the nation by using energy more carefully and efficiently.

In addition, the heads of nationalized fuel industries have told me that they will coordinate energy saving publicity.

Major campaign

It is not possible to estimate with any precision the energy savings which may emerge from this package, nor least because many of the effects are cumulative over time. The Government are directly responsible for only a very small part of the nation's energy consumption. Within this area some impressive savings are being made, as my statement has shown.

For the rest, the Government will give a lead, and will run a major energy saving campaign, success will depend primarily on the efforts of individual businesses and households.

There is no doubt that substantial savings are possible. Indeed, if we were to be able to save, within the next few years, say, 10 per cent of our energy consumption, it would mean that we could save an amount which currently costs about £700m a year to import—we would have made a major contribution to our national wellbeing and national future.

whims such as nationalizing ship-building and aircraft. Should they not be dropped forthwith?

MR MEACHER—We have had two elections since we were put forward. We received a mandate to continue both proposals, and we intend to carry them out.

On the issue of the all that has so far been committed is a guarantee to the company's principal banker, under the Industrial Act, 1973, to defray the expenses of the company while it is guaranteed until such time as a long-term solution will be provided.

MR ROSE—Manchester, Blackley, Lab.—Injection of public capital in Ferranti should be accompanied by public accountability by Ferranti, and public ownership should be part of the equity stake taken in that company.

Will he undertake that there will be no living-off, in particular of the transformer division, or any other part of the company, or area or Fallowfield. Will there be full consultation with the staff and Confederation?

MR MEACHER—I can certainly give Mr Rose an assurance on each of these points. There will be no living-off of the transformer division. We will take full account of the views of the staff and the Confederation.

On taking a public stake, we will be acting in accordance with the views of the staff and the Confederation. We will ensure that there is a large-scale injection of public funds, it is only right that there should be a roughly commensurate public equity stake taken in that company.

We regard it as one of the unsatisfactory faces of capitalism that the situation requires us to sell 25 per cent of the shares, control no less than 17,000 jobs. That is quite wrong. (Labour cheers.)

Motorways excluded from speed limit cut

MR MULLEY, Minister for Transport (Sheffield, Park, Lab.), in a statement on the proposed reduction in speed limits, said: In assessing the amount by which speed limits should be reduced, there is a balance to be struck. Lower speeds save fuel and reduce accidents, but slower journeys may be uneconomic. Moreover, if speed limits do not command general support, they will be ineffective. The Government put serious extra strain on police resources.

In the light of these considerations we have concluded that the 70 mph limit should be retained on motorways, but that a limit of 50 mph should be imposed on all other dual carriageway roads and of 50 mph on all single carriageway roads, unless these already carry a lower limit.

Motorways confer important economic benefits in the movement of traffic, particularly freight. They are designed for higher speeds than other roads and even so are by far our safest roads. The 70 mph limit on motorways also provides a differential in speed limits between heavy lorries and other traffic, while allowing the freedom of travel at economic speeds. As motorways carry only a small proportion of total road traffic, a significant saving in fuel would require a drastic reduction in speeds on the rest of the road network. This could only be achieved by a major enforcement effort and loss of efficiency. I have therefore decided that it would be wrong to change the present limit.

The bulk of traffic flows on other main roads, where a reduction in average speeds by even 5 mph would save about £10m a year in fuel costs. Recognizing that in present conditions few single carriageway roads permit sustained speeds much over 60 mph, we are making an effective reduction in speeds on both single and dual carriageways of between five and 10 mph.

I should also remind the House that efficient driving and proper vehicle maintenance can save petrol as effectively as lower speeds. The motoring organizations and others had a lot of sound advice to offer about this. It is not possible to estimate with any precision the energy savings which may emerge from this package, nor least because many of the effects are cumulative over time. The Government are directly responsible for only a very small part of the nation's energy consumption. Within this area some impressive savings are being made, as my statement has shown.

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Government decline to take over HS146: Option to be kept open

MR BENN, Secretary of State for Industry (Bristol, South-East, Lab.), in a statement about the HS146 aircraft, said that Hawker Siddeley Aviation had now told him that they were only willing to contemplate carrying on with the project if the Government provided all the required funds from now on which would be at least £120m over the next three years at today's prices.

The Government have now completed a thorough review of all the options. We have had to accept that the £50.50m funding is no longer open to us and we have decided, after the most careful consideration that we cannot justify 100 per cent Government funding.

The Government are, however, concerned to maintain this type of capability in the civil aircraft industry. The Government have now completed a thorough review of all the options. We have had to accept that the £50.50m funding is no longer open to us and we have decided, after the most careful consideration that we cannot justify 100 per cent Government funding.

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How long are the options open?

MR BENN—The options will begin the first of January and will, I hope, be kept open for as long as it is possible to do so.

MR HELEN—What timescale does the Government have in mind for a reassessment of the project, while the design staff, redundancy, and other matters are being dealt with?

MR BENN—The Government are, however, concerned to maintain this type of capability in the civil aircraft industry. The Government have now completed a thorough review of all the options. We have had to accept that the £50.50m funding is no longer open to us and we have decided, after the most careful consideration that we cannot justify 100 per cent Government funding.

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Rota cuts would save fuel but cause misery

MR PATRICK JENKIN, Opposition spokesman on energy (Redbridge, Wandsworth, Woodford, C.), questioning the Government's statement, said: We will have our full support for all sensible measures in the national interest to save energy. But we must not lose sight of the fact that rota cuts in energy supply will cause misery. The country will want to know why all this was not announced months ago. (Conservative cheers.)

MR VARLEY—He knows that work has already been going ahead on this package. Voluntary savings have already saved £150m. These are complex measures and it is a complex problem.

The only way to bring about a dramatic and immediate reduction in energy consumption is by rationing, rota cuts of electricity supply and short rationing schemes—in short, misery. If we were to do that the impact would do grave harm to industry, industrial activity and exports.

MR PALMER (Bristol, North-East, Lab.)—Is not his timescale too long? Should not we be aiming at achieving 10 or 15 per cent saving in about three years? This is the estimate many experts make for advanced industrial countries.

MR VARLEY—I want to see savings as quickly as possible providing they do not inflict unnecessary misery and do not inflict harm on industrial activity and export potential. I will be satisfied if we can achieve his figure.

MR GRIMOND (Orkney and Shetland, L.)—If there is to be a further cut in petrol will he consider the needs of rural areas? Many think that the Government's package will result in more bureaucracy than economy. The only way of securing pervasive and genuine economy is when people have to face the consequences of their actions and decisions in terms of price.

MR VARLEY—I do not think we can do it all by price alone. We must have more realistic energy pricing. Prospective deficits in the nationalized fuel industries for 1974-75 are quite frightening and something will have to be done about them. I am not sure that we can protect the poor household.

MR POWELL (South Down, UUC)—Many of the items in Mr Varley's package will result in more bureaucracy than economy. The only way of securing pervasive and genuine economy is when people have to face the consequences of their actions and decisions in terms of price.

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Publication of report on law of contempt

MR SKINNER (Bolsover, Lab.) asked the Attorney General to introduce legislation to prevent contempt of court from being carried through by law, to deal with existing houses and not just new ones.

MR VARLEY—I have not seen that work. (Conservative interruption.) I am not sure that we can protect the poor household.

MR OSBORN (Sheffield, Hallam, C.)—Is he tackling the problem as energetically as the Americans, for instance? They have produced a report and they have an energy research and development agency.

MR VARLEY—We shall bring forward appropriate measures after appropriate research into all the implications of energy saving. I am not sure that we can protect the poor household.

MR KINNOCK (Bedwelly, Lab.)—We need a new policy for energy saving. I am not sure that we can protect the poor household.

MR VARLEY—I agree we want to work through integrated energy policy. The investment programme for the coal industry is worth while and will bring dividends. I want the industry producing not only 120 million tons a year, which is only a jumping off point, but 150 million tons.

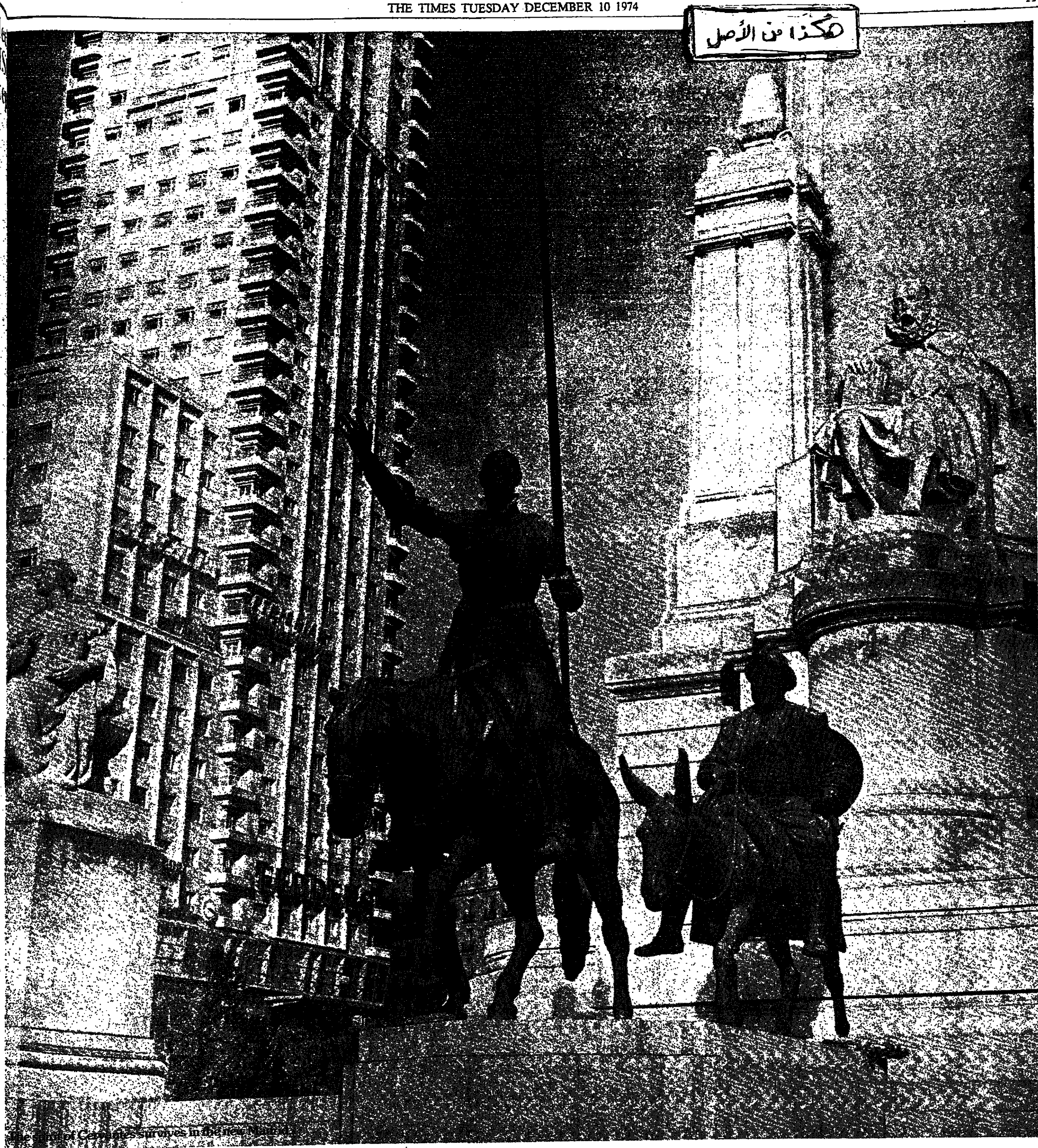
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Trust for socialist medicine propaganda invalid

In re Bushnell deceased

Before Mr Justice Goff

[Judgment delivered December 4]

A trust for the advancement and

promotion of the teaching of

socialized medicine in accordance

with conditions requiring the

income to be used for furthering

the cause of the teaching of

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TC 508). In re Hopkins [1949]

1 All ER 346, and in re McDougall

Deed [1957] 1 WLR 815 his Lord-

ship said that the character of

the trusts did not convert an

otherwise educational trust into

one for a political purpose, because

the trustees were bound to carry

out the purpose of the trust and

were subject to the court in so

doing.

His Lordship's conclusion, how-

ever, was that the trust was not

a political trust. The testator

never for a moment dis-

sired the education of the public

so that they could choose for them-

selves, but was trying to promote

his own theory of propaganda. The

primary trust could therefore not

be supported as educational.

The testator's primary trust could

be supported as a valid trust as

being for the public benefit, within

the meaning of the Act (1891 AC

531). The argument was thus:

American guidance for a new Bill of Rights

I can imagine how Lord Justice Scarman's call for a Bill of Rights was received in Westminster and Whitehall last week. The inference that our system is less than perfect, and that we have much to learn from the Americans and the West Germans, must have made many ministers and mandarins bridle.

No doubt the defenders of the status quo also said that we already have a Bill of Rights. We certainly do. It was enacted in December, 1969, and the full title is "An Act declaring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject, and settling the Succession of the Crown".

The 1689 Bill, however, helped to establish the supremacy of Parliament which is very different. So different that in 1941 Lord Wright said: "In the Constitution of this country there are no guaranteed or absolute rights."

This is an appalling state of affairs, although Members of Parliament insist of course that as the elected representatives of the people they are best placed to defend our rights and liberties. History could be said to support their claim, apart from the trespasses such as deporting men half way round the world for stealing sheep. Even Americans, who have every right to be proud of their Bill of Rights, have argued that British liberties have been well protected.

The American Bill of Rights certainly did not defend the freedom of rights of the black community much before 1954. Prejudice and hypocrisy were too strong, but when the change did come the Supreme Court restored the rights of the blacks under the Bill of Rights. The respect for the Bill was no powerful that a social revolution was won with relatively little violence.

The Supreme Court did more than that. Under the late Chief Justice Earl Warren it in effect rediscovered the Bill of Rights and used its protection where ever human rights were threatened. Lord Justice Scarman believes that the time has now come to seek similar protection here. This is necessary, he said last week in the first of the Hamlyn lectures, because in the temporary world there are challenges, social, political and economic, which will destroy English law if it does not rise to them.

I see no reason why the answer should not be a new constitutional settlement, entrenched or fundamental laws protected by a Bill of Rights—a constitutional law which it is the duty of the courts to protect even against the power of Parliament.

In other words, there must be a constitutional restraint placed upon the legislative power which is designed to protect the individual citizen from instant legislation, conceived in fear or prejudice and enacted in breach of human rights.

Without a Bill of Rights protected from repeal, amendment or suspension by the ordinary processes of a bare Parliamentary majority controlled by the government of the day, human rights will be at risk.

The difficulties will be immense. Entrenched laws are alien to the British Constitution. No Parliament can legislate for future Parliaments, and apart from the theory and practice could a majority of members be persuaded to diminish their collective sovereignty?

Such questions and answers have been well rehearsed over the centuries. As Lord Justice

Scarman reminded us, Cromwell asserted that "in every Government there must be Some Fundamental, Some what like a Magna Charter (ed: correct), which should be standing, be unalterable...". In 1610 Coke declared that "the common law will control Acts of Parliament and sometimes adjudge them to be utterly void".

In 1945, the United Nations Charter reaffirmed the universal faith in human rights, and three years later the General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In 1950, the Council of Europe adopted the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, and Britain was the first state to deposit its instrument of ratification.

Parliament has yet to incorporate formally the convention's provisions into the law of the land, but Britain has accepted the competence of the Convention of Human Rights to consider individual complaints, and to refer them if necessary to the Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

What then is Parliament to do? It might first try to define its own supremacy. Dr. F. A. Mann wrote in the March 30, 1972, issue of the *New Law Journal*:

"It is, of course, not to be doubted that Parliament is the ultimate and supreme power in the United Kingdom. By a simple majority can bring about far-reaching changes. But if the doctrine were intended to mean that Parliament can give effect to any change of whatever kind and that any and every enactment by Parliament necessarily has the character of binding law, then, with great respect and notwithstanding much verbal authority to the contrary, serious doubts would have to be voiced."

The absolute omnipotence of Parliament has not been put to the test for some hundreds of years. Therefore not too much importance should be attached to what may be a mere formula in need of extensive justification. The test will no doubt come if and when the Court of Human Rights invalidates an English law. Would Parliament repeal the offending statute? If not, would the courts refuse to continue to apply it? To do otherwise would surely offend the judicial conscience.

A confrontation between Parliament and the law cannot altogether be ruled out unless the judges are to be expected, because of the supremacy of Parliament, to enforce a law which they know to be contrary to the country's solemn international undertakings, and which would be universally condemned. This is unthinkable. Inevitably, it would seem, the European Convention on Human Rights will become the higher law in this country. Surely it would be sensible for Parliament to recognize that supremacy is not absolute omnipotence, and enact a new Bill of Rights.

The framers would not have to take a leap into the dark. Apart from the European Convention there is the American Bill of Rights, some of whose provisions can be traced back to our 1689 Bill. One can be sure that the spirits of Cromwell and Coke as well as Mason and Jefferson would applaud them if they sought guidance from this noble example of Anglo-American constitutional law for Britain.

Louis Heren

The Labour Party's favourite riddle: When is a crime not a crime?

Bernard Levin

Reports from the bedside of Mr Roy Jenkins are grave: his condition, which has been diagnosed as a disorder of the larynx known as *intelligensia nervosa*, and which has effectively prevented him from saying anything of any particular consequence for some months, is definitely giving rise to concern, at any rate on the part of his friends, and although the doctors still hold out every hope of a complete recovery, it can hardly escape remark that they are now insisting on payment in advance.

Mr Jenkins would, of course, make an admirably situated Cambridge college, and if it comes to that he would probably make a very capable billiard-marker, taxidermist or actor, but there are more important, and more useful, stations in life to which it may well please the nation to call him, provided the nation does not entirely forget his existence; if he could manage, from time to time, to signal that he is still with us—perhaps by twitching an eyebrow, or even coughing discreetly—it could do no harm, and might possibly do much good.

With which toast I couple the name of Mr Reginald Prentice, a man of increasingly attractive mien, not to say mien. He has made a number of speeches lately which have added greatly to his political stature, and it is significant that neither his admirers nor his opponents seem to think of him as a Jenkinsite, though of course most of his beliefs and views are very close to those of Mr Jenkins; Mr Prentice is clearly a man who sails under his own flag, and clapping the telescope to my good eye I discern on that flag the words "discretion", "prudence" and "exacerbate" struck through and replaced by "principle".

And no principle could be more important now than the subject of Mr Prentice's most recent public statement, in which he sharply criticized the attitude of the Labour Party conference in its debate over the Clay Cross councillors, and the imprisoned Shrewsbury pickets.

Now Mr Prentice was right to link the increase in such crimes as violent thefts with episodes like the Clay Cross and Shrewsbury, for there is a vital sense in which the fabric of order is indivisible; if you pierce it at any point it will sooner or later be rent across, and law-breaking of the Clay Cross kind, in which nobody got a broken head, cannot and should not be separated morally, legally or politically from the kind to which Mr Prentice referred when he spoke of "old-age pensioners in my constituency who are

afraid to open their doors at night in case they are mugged". What is more, even if there were an important distinction of kind between the Clay Cross offenders and the muggers, there is certainly none between the muggers and the Shrewsbury pickets, a pair of brutal gangsters prepared to use violence to intimidate those who would not do their bidding.

But Mr Prentice's remarks were chiefly directed at the Labour Party in conference, and via that forum to the Labour movement as a whole; and in that respect they were even more important, even more urgently necessary, and even more worthy of the most widespread support. The fact that most of the faces that we are very rapidly sliding into a situation in which crime of almost any kind is being defended, applauded and encouraged provided it can be said to advance the cause of left-wing politics, or provided it is committed by or on behalf of the trade union movement. What is more, the defence, applause and encouragement are coming from supposedly reputable Labour politicians and supposedly responsible trade union leaders, and what is more still, many Labour politicians and union leaders who ought to be actively opposing this tendency are doing no such thing; Mr Prentice drew attention to the fact that the speakers from the platform of the Labour conference "made no attempt to refute these views", and it is clear that the tacit connivance (largely for political reasons) on the part of the Government, Labour Party and trade union movement has already gone far beyond anything that can be excused as the activities of the lunatic fringe.

The Clay Cross councillors and the Shrewsbury thugs are in the forefront of the discussion, but it is not so long since the case of the five dockers who defied the law for political ends; on that occasion, Mr Prentice spoke up strongly and admirably against the attempt to paint them as a rearguard of the Populoid Movement, and thus provoked the ire of Mr Eric Jeffer. Nor is that by any means all. Within the last few weeks we have seen dustmen in Kensington and Chelsea taking industrial action on grounds which included the fact that some of their number were being questioned, and later charged, in connection with an alleged "protection" racket. I do not, of course, know whether those questioned or charged were or were not guilty of

any offence, and naturally make no comment on that; but the point is that there seemed to be an assumption that it is wrong for trades unionists to be subject to the law at all, and that if the law so much as approaches them industrial action is called for. An even more flagrant example of the same attitude occurred when the police were attempting to check the practice, at Heathrow Airport, of stealing gigantic quantities of goods from suitcases while these are being loaded and unloaded from aircraft. Industrial action followed, and on that occasion, one union official (there is, of course, no reason to suppose that he was himself in any way involved in the stealing) actually hinted, none too subtly, that there might be violence done against anyone found taking part in the thwarting of the thieves.

Such episodes suggest that there is a widespread, and growing, belief that stealing from the holds of aircraft, or forcing ratepayers to give money to avoid having their rubbish strewn over their premises, is a kind of legitimate "perk" that goes with the job and the union card, and that the weight of industrial action is properly brought to bear to stop any interference with it. That is bad enough, just as it is bad enough that the Clay Cross councillors should refuse to obey the law and be encouraged in their refusal by Mr Edward Short, that the dockers who did likewise should be admired by Mr Eric Jeffer, and that the Shrewsbury criminals should receive such massive support, couched in terms not far removed from hero-worship, at the Labour Party conference. But what is even worse is that there is a growing tendency on the part of Labour's leading figures to condone such offences out of one corner of their mouths while condemning them out of the other. Which brings me back to the Attorney-General.

A month ago, I drew pointed attention to the situation of Mr Silkin vis-à-vis the Clay Cross affair. The Attorney-General, when he was Shadow Law Officer, was asked to advise on the possibility of a Labour Government retrospectively removing penalties from such offenders as the Clay Cross councillors. In his advice, he wrote as follows:

An Act of Indemnity passed for this purpose would, in my opinion, contravene all constitutional practice and would set a dan-

gerous precedent. Moreover, the expression of an intention to pass such legislation in the event of such a party being returned to power could only be construed as an incitement to those concerned to refuse to obey the law; such expression of intention would therefore also set a dangerous precedent... no Law Officer of the Crown, or any political party, would be likely to advise the Government of which he was a member to initiate such legislation.

Nothing could be plainer, nothing more correct; and nothing could more obviously make Mr Silkin's resignation from his office unavoidable, should such legislation nevertheless be promised (which it was) and enacted (which it is now to be).

Mr Silkin's resignation did not come; and I have now had confirmation that it is not going to do so. And the method adopted by Mr Silkin to oil out of his inescapable obligation is so interesting, and for that matter so revolting, that I think it ought to be made public. Mr Silkin is arguing (I have a letter written on his behalf to one of my readers) that his advice referred only to the possibility of indemnifying the councillors financially, and that since the legislation is going to indemnify them constitutionally (i.e. by removing the legal disqualifications from office imposed on them), the Government's intentions do not conflict with the advice he gave.

If Mr Silkin, or anyone else for that matter, wants to know why politicians and lawyers, let alone those who are both at once, are sometimes held in the most profound contempt by many people, I cannot think of better evidence. Promise of legislation, followed by the legislation itself, to lift from law-breakers the penalty for their law-breaking, is held to be impermissible as an incitement to law-breaking; but when the man who so holds is invited to live up to his own statement of the law, he suddenly finds that only lifting the monetary penalties would have the deplorable effect to which he drew attention, and that a promise to lift other penalties can be made, and subsequently carried out, without anybody being encouraged to defy the law.

So Mr Silkin will remain a member of this Government; which, one might say, makes it all the more important that Mr Prentice is a member of it, too. There will now, no doubt, be attempts to silence Mr Prentice; which will make it all the more important that he continues to speak out. I wish the Home Secretary's larynx a speedy return to full operational efficiency.

Times Newspapers Ltd, 1974

Strange conversation in Cairo

You'd think most Cairo drivers would pull sedately along when you told them you wanted to get out. I negotiated the Lion Bridge over the Nile, cut down the Hilton towards the museum and I'd turned rat-smugly to the driver and said "Istanna ya arabgi". After that's what my little Arab phrase book told me to say meant the nearest equivalent of "Stop coachman".

It was after this that I, another look at my little brown-covered manual, I chased for a few paces a street bookstall. *Conversations with an Arab*, by Enayeh, a Coptic, was called, and the author, Mahmoud Mousa Salem, even had confidence put a little photograph of himself on page four; a caviar-faced chap, slightly bald with a thick black moustache and just a hint of a matty. Surely Mr Salem could have imagined I would be welling through Cairo in horse-drawn carriage.

According to the preface written in 1966, the phonetic transcription of English phrases would help me through my problems. I have tried to enrich this book with various Arabic idioms which roughly embrace all the practical needs of life. And on page 106 I found just the kind of phrase I'm always in need of when I'm dining out. "You will take a little will you not?" went my phrase, followed by the delectable reply: "Yes, I trouble you for a little turbot for years but should have been otherwise. Mr Salem had thought of a beautiful alternative. "Everyone gets drier", it went.

Mr Salem had supplied no than this. With the use of book, I could go shopping the desert then tell my friends. We have shot my hand and my legs. I, a guide with me, I could tell him in perfect Arabic. "Give a bit of bread to child." Guides being what I am, of course, I could include with shattering frankness in his own language: "I'd like to see a day, an hour, to be satisfied with. Since a camel driver would take you round the three pyramids for 50 piastres, you always win back the guide good humour by your sensitivity."

It could be said that it really penetrating insight. Even in a country like a for land, Mr Salem's book is world-beater. Page 12, example, told me how to understand the phrase "Al-makshay khidma". "W means 'Have you any mands for me?' By glad at page 99, I could reply by "Yes, pray reach me cloth trousers."

If all this did not des Anglo-Egyptian relations for generation, I might just got away with a charming version on page 123 which goes like this: "There's past one o'clock and there Galal who says that dinner ready—there wants a kind a carve that duck." Assume that a small racial war did erupt, Mr Salem had even vided for a tourist trip by "Let us make haste on be to secure our berth", drones on. "For we shall all night upon the water there are a tolerable number of passengers." Anyone on *bateau d'opere* whom I not like could be dismissed with "I do not like that man his manner displeases me," his baddling (sic) absolute splits my head. Landing Sharm el Sheikh, even ashore and ashore: "Es kum nashah el-arabiyah Which translates as "At w off' does the allegiance off'?"

Robert Fi

Why the Greeks have opted for a president with the powers of a king



Mr Kanellopoulos.

The reason why King Constantine is ex-King of the Hellenes today is that he had two major handicaps in Sunday's referendum: He was saddled with all the sins of the dynasty—not only his own; and it was the first time that a Greek king had had to fight it out alone, without the organized support of the Conservative Party or the army. What is astonishing in the circumstances is that the monarchy should have polled as much as 31 per cent of the total vote.

This was undoubtedly the only honest plebiscite on the monarchy of the six held here in the past 54 years. People, in fact, felt free to express their views on the monarchy in the last month's elections. Then the fact that the tanks might come back had induced even leftists to vote for Mr Constantine Karamanlis, whose election seemed to offer the best guarantee against a relapse into dictatorship.

These apprehensive voters were confident enough on Sunday to revert to a more genuine voting pattern, with Mr Karamanlis firmly in control of the monarchy offered greater stability than the republic sounded somewhat hollow.

Royalist propaganda of poor quality and small calibre. The full brunt of the campaign fell on King Constantine himself, whose first television appearance marked an emotional swing in his favour.

The effect, however, was not upheld by the second broadcast 48 hours before polling, or by the paucity of the ideological arsenal deployed by the monarchists in the face of a vigorous and sustained dialectical propaganda campaign by the anti-monarchists.

It is now clear that the vehemence of the campaign against King Constantine was aimed at pinning down his share of the vote to a level that would definitely dispense with the monarchy issue once and for all. The results seem to have vindicated this sledgehammer approach to the election, for many anti-monarchist leaders say there is no reason why King Constantine and his family should not return to Greece as private citizens. The government has urged the ex-king to wait for a while.

King Constantine was mainly blamed for his confrontation with the republicans. Mr George Papandreu, in 1965, which led to a period of government supported by majorities engineered by the palace in evident defiance of the popular will. His opponents pressed the argument that King Constantine's promises never to respect the people's will were worthless in view of this record. Royalist propaganda failed to counter this convincingly.

King Constantine may have missed a last chance for a bigger vote by overlooking the principle of the monarchy in the referendum. He was bound to give the Greeks a feeling of political claustrophobia: The fact that they can change a bad president by voting him out, but not a bad king, except by force.

The king had been urged by friends from Athens to announce that he offered to submit the monarchy again to the people's judgment in, say, ten years to see how it would have worked out. By that time Prince Paul, his heir, would have been of age and the Greeks might even have had the possibility of renewing the institution.

Now Greece is a republic. Mr Karamanlis has emerged from the elections and the plebiscite with more political power than any elected Greek leader has held before. Parliament's first task, after this week's debate on the government's statement of policy, will be the appointment of a provisional president of the republic to replace General Phaedon Giziakis, the last relic of the fallen dictatorship. Most Greek leaders believe the new man will be Mr Panayotis Kanellopoulos, the veteran Prime Minister, who is unique in enjoying universal esteem in Greece because of his brave stand during the dictatorship. He may obtain a unanimous vote.

The provisional president will enjoy all the powers and prerogatives granted to the king by the 1952 constitution, which are not negligible. He is to remain a while, but will be loomed to approve a new republican constitution within the next three or four months.

The form of republic it will prescribe is still uncertain. Much depends on Mr Karamanlis, who once favoured a French-style presidential republic since it would have given him all the latitude he wants for drastic reforms. In recent weeks, however, he seems to have moved towards a republic modelled on West Germany, with the vital executive powers vested in the Prime Minister. Mr Karamanlis is aware that Gaulism is a double-edged sword since its extraordinary powers may one day be inherited by less dependable opponents—especially if the voting age is lowered to 18.

A moot point is whether presidents will be elected directly by the people or through parliament. What Greece would need to fill in the power gap left by the termination of the monarchy is a head of state in the role of moderator.

Mr Karamanlis, after 11 years of European exile, is giving evidence not only of wisdom but also of new tolerance towards his opponents and critics. People have not failed to notice the new ethos he has already introduced into Greek politics. If he obtains a co-operative response from the opposition, he will be able to concentrate on the critical, external and internal problems which will be looming large as soon as the dust of electioneering settles and the last chants hailing Greece's newly regained freedom die down.

Mario Modiano Philip Howard, page 16

The Times Diary

Un blablaba with a touch of class

received a collective punch in the stomach. The same technique was later applied to "nous voulons un vrai smogmet" and "Leprieux-Ringuet a pouvoir" at which notion students were chanting broke down and wept.

Leprieux-Ringuet delivered a letter to the Quai d'Orsay just before the heads of Government arrived. When he came out he was asked if he thought they intended to make real progress towards European unity. "It is difficult to know what diplomats intend", he said gravely. "Sometimes they do what they say is not what they do." His supporters cheered.

When the heads of Government arrived, in black Citroens and Mercedes cars, Harold Wilson and James Callaghan got an especially large shower of European Movement leaflets which said: "Non à un blablaba sans résultat" and a special rhythmic chant of: "British with Europe".

Wilson and Callaghan turned on the red carpeted steps as they entered the ministry—their party was to do so—and smiled amiably. "It is difficult for the English", said the American-educated European. "You are all islanders really, but now you need friends."

Scenes

Parisian preoccupations are much as always. *France-Dimanche* says Princess Anne's marriage has gone sour, and reports the Queen's "cry of agony" over the trouble her

daughter is supposed to be having with Mark Phillips.

By the Rond-point a group of men sat disconsolately trading old stamps and coins from park chairs. Some of them also fed sparrows from crumbs in their hands. I asked one how business would be in face of the threats of inflation and recession. He grinned sardonically, flicked a sparrow from his hand, and ate the crumbs himself. "We French", he said, "have never had difficulty reconciling our consciences to looking after number one."

From the shop windows it would be difficult to tell that Christmas is close. The only Parisian Father Christmas I have found so far looked lonely and was holding a large woolen toy rather like a comforter. Nobody paid any attention.

In the Galeries Lafayette the gift department is specially featuring wastepaper baskets at £9 and outsize plastic clothes pegs for holding messages at £3.50.

Ho's haunts

A film camera crew from North Vietnam arrived in London at the weekend to spend a week filming scenes for a biography of the late Ho Chi Minh, their revolutionary leader. Ho spent about a year in Britain in 1913 and 1914.

Most notably, he is known to have worked in the kitchen of the old Carlton Hotel in Haymarket, when the redoubtable Escottier was chef there. As the

hotel has been demolished, the camera crew will be reduced to filming New Zealand House, the skyscraper which now stands on the site.

They will achieve more authenticity at the Drayton Court Hotel in Ealing where, according to letters to his family in Vietnam, Ho also worked for a while. This was tracked down after an original abortive search for a place called the Creighton Court Hotel. The Drayton Court was built at about the turn of the century and, although the present management retains no records relating to the early years of the century, the researchers are fairly sure it is the place.

The crew will also film the house at 10 Orchard Place, Southampton, where Ho lived for a while. He also spent time in Liverpool.

Originally the North Vietnamese wanted to film the British Museum Library, where legend has it that Ho did some research. Yet the library authorities have no record of his having had reader's ticket, and it is believed that the legend grew up because most respectable Communists heroes, starting with Marx, have put in a stint there.

Good news

A faithful reader telephoned and upbraided me for the gloom which pervaded yesterday's report about the prospects for a happy Christmas. Things were not all that bad, he alleged. Why could I not look on the bright side?

Ever responsive to criticism, I set out early to interview a man who is convinced that everything is going to turn out fine. He is Shepherd Mead, who has just written a book called *How to get to the future before it gets to you*.

"And Simon, have you by any chance got Mr Bun the bolshie baker?"



Mead specializes in books with such catchy titles. His best known was *How to succeed in business without really trying*, which he followed with *How to succeed with women without really trying*, *How to live like a lord without really trying* and *How to stay medium-sized practically forever without really trying*. I sometimes suspect that he thinks up the titles first and then moulds a book to fit them—and in the case of his latest work he confesses that this suspicion is well founded.

Asked to write a non-fiction book by a publisher who offered a fat advance, Mead thought furiously was a saleable topic. So he invented his title and began boning up on the subject. The result is a readable if hardly original compilation of

projections into the future embellished with Mead's optimism that everything going to be all right. He misses pessimistic compulsion like those of the CI for instance, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which predict that we shall all be destroyed by growth and attendant pollution.

Mead's answer—and it is an original one—is that the forecasts fail to take into account that people are all time working to prevent it predicted disasters, and circumstances change.

Mead believes we can do with anything the future has to offer, and even sees good in a present difficulties. "Histo will say that probably the best thing that happened in the 197 was the Arabs quadrupling the price of oil," he said. "It very bitter medicine but it was good for us eventually."

It is ridiculous and absolutely idiotic to use oil for energy. We base our economy on petroleum and there soon won't be any left. It will encourage to develop other sources of energy, like nuclear fission, hydrogen, and the tapping the heat towards the centre the earth.

It is good to meet someone so dismissive of pessimism. I writes in his introduction: "I follow who predicts that the world will end (horribly!) in 2020 is one up on the lad who said 2030, and if you really want to hit the best-seller list, let me have the top-lecture dates, it being 2010, and let everyone else to go to sleep optimists." Even if his book does not hit the best-seller list Mead is a comforting person to interview first thing on a dull drizzly Monday.

PHS

Have we overstepped the mark this Christmas?

When fashion in the late eighteenth century began to turn from snuff to tobacco, the firm of Fribourg & Treyer, stifling their regret at the passing of an age, went so far as to become in 1796 the earliest importers into Britain of the Havana cigar.

In 1880, however, when one of the partners ventured to suggest the importation of wine, nearly ninety years were to pass before the first hogsheads arrived from Bordeaux to be bottled and sold under the House label.

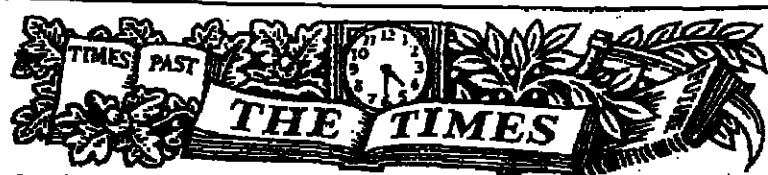
Comfortably established at the highest level of a discerning market, the firm was never one to pirouette at fashion's whim. Imagine, therefore, the soul-searching that must have taken place before the first box of cigarettes was tentatively displayed upon the well-worn shelves at 34 Haymarket.

Imagine also the feelings of the earliest partners if they could have seen Fribourg & Treyer No.1 Filter de Luxe cigarettes of Christmas, not only on premises but at other establishments. It is perhaps fortunate that the occasion comes but once a year.

FRIBOURG & TREYER, 34 Haymarket, London SW1. No.1 Filter de Luxe is available direct from 34 Haymarket, London SW1 at £4.50 for 200 including postage and packing.

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SHOPS AND TERRORISM

Just three days have seen two events which are of some concern to the church. On Saturday Abel Muzorewa, head of the Methodist Church in Rhodesia, accepted the leadership of a new organization whose aim is to recognize the "jillies of the continued struggle". One of the new members of this organization is a Zimbabwe African People's Union, and the armed struggle has so far carried out its main policy of terrorism against civilians and farmers and soldiers.

On Sunday Archbishop Hilarion of the Greek Catholic Church in Romania by tradition, liturgy (non law) Archbishop of Romania, was found guilty by a court of performing a "terrorist act" for the Fatah organization and illegally possessing weapons. The Archbishop's liberation movement "armed struggle" most makes the form of terrorism on unarmed civilians, women and children. Alleged by the prosecution, the Archbishop was found guilty of three Katynusha rockets were found on May 15 minutes before they were to fire themselves at the sector of the city.

Points can be made in defence of both clergymen. Bishop Muzorewa has done a great deal in the past few years to canalize the political aspirations of Black Rhodesians in a non-violent manner of protest. It is already being suggested in Salisbury that in fact it is the militant nationalists who have fallen into line behind him, and that the reference to the inevitability of armed struggle should be seen only as a warning of the outcome if attempts to achieve majority rule by peaceful means are blocked, rather than a deliberate declaration of war. The Bishop will hope that if it does come to armed struggle the Bishop will persuade his followers to adopt non-terrorist types of warfare.

In Archbishop Capucci's case it should be noted that he denied the charges against him (though it is not in dispute that he was a member of Fatah and a keen supporter of the Palestinian nationalist cause) and that his counsel in disputing the jurisdiction of the Israeli district court was on sound legal ground, since Israel's annexation of East Jerusalem has no validity in international law and Mar Capucci is not an Israeli citizen.

WHY DO THEY PAY SO MUCH TOO MUCH?

It is that employers seem able to meet extravagant claims at a time of acute cash shortage in the company sector economy? Part of the answer is that meeting the pay claims is the cash shortage, the reason why people are in traffic jams is that it is driving which causes the cash shortage.

Employers cannot of course pay claims in excess of the cash. If they can hire the labour they pay less amounts, nor pass their labour costs to the consumer—either because the will not bear the higher or because prices are fixed—nor borrow, they go into business, and their employees lose their jobs. As before Mr Healey's budget, and perhaps as well, a collision between claims and company cash was developing. If nothing is done—and perhaps if it is done—some employees will go out of business and employees will accept lower settlements in order to prevent employers from going out of business.

There is but a special case of the general truth that, if the work-force in an economy declines to work for rewards equal to or less than the value of their product, then they cannot work. Governments can respond either by allowing events to take their course until such time as the work-force changes its policy or by creating new money in excess of the growth in output, thereby underwriting excessive pay settlements, enabling prices to rise to cover them and so reducing the real rewards of labour to the value of its product.

The present Chancellor is following a course half-way between these two alternatives, so enabling some inflationary settlements to be paid while threatening other employers and employees with extinction. Thus the impression is given both that excessive pay claims are being met and that companies are being driven to the wall by cash shortages. Inflation and unemployment both grow. But the weakest companies are not in general meeting the big claims; and the big claims are most successful in the public sector, in the multi-national sector and against those companies which are still commercially strong.

However the gainers and losers are distributed, there is no escaping the choice between accelerating inflation and rising unemployment which excessive pay settlements pose to any government. Price controls are merely a way of opting for more unemployment and less inflation in the short-term; and faster increases in the money supply and bigger budget deficits are merely ways of reversing that preference. In the long run excessive pay settlements can only cause and can cause only inflation; and price controls can only cause and can cause only inefficiency tempered by illegality.

It might help Sir Keith to place the problem in perspective to know that undergarments writing on the NUS's views on freedom of speech, and Plato's criticisms of family life. Things have not changed as much as the headlines would suggest. The NUS's views on freedom of speech, and Plato's criticisms of family life. Things have not changed as much as the headlines would suggest. The NUS's views on freedom of speech, and Plato's criticisms of family life. Things have not changed as much as the headlines would suggest.

THE FIRST STEPS IN ENERGY SAVING

Announcing his proposals for a national programme to save energy, Mr Eric Varley made it yesterday that the present government measures is the first step which will be taken by others in the months ahead. That is just as well, for the programme announced yesterday, desirable, still does not add up to the scale of the problem facing us.

Energy saving programme is short and medium term only on the price mechanism and on a certain measure of restraint through rationing. All of these elements are in his scheme, which recognizes that each of us serves to buttress the system; but they are there in small quantities. The price element first, we welcome the decision to be next round of oil price rises will bear most heavily on the use of private cars, and on serious consideration to be given to ways in which the public could be urged to buy smaller cars and consume less fuel. Such action, either in the form of a higher rate of car tax on large vehicles or a more expensive road tax for larger-engined vehicles would not be popular, particularly at a time when the motor industry is in trouble; but it should be done.

Forecasts of rate of inflation

From Dr A. P. Thirlwall
Sir, Does the National Institute of Economic and Social Research mean that by announcing that it expects the rate of inflation in Great Britain to rise to 25 per cent, there is a good chance that it will rise to this level? Can we please have a moratorium on all future forecasts of the rate of inflation by authoritative bodies and individuals. This would make a far bigger contribution to bringing down the rate of inflation than any policy recommended by such bodies and individuals. Yours faithfully,
A. P. THIRLWALL, Reader in Economics, University of Kent at Canterbury, Canterbury, Kent.

Respect for truth

From Mr Conrad Russell
Sir, Sir Keith Joseph (December 4) has now offered evidence in support of his contention that "some academics have lost their respect for truth". Since he is a vital principle of scholarship that respect for truth should be expressed by the careful weighing of evidence, I hope he will not condemn me for suggesting that his evidence does not prove his case. He cites Herbert Marcuse as holding that "an individual's perception of reality is not always objective but is a mere by-product of the thinker's economic and social conditions". Such a view, though I find it alarming, has no bearing on Sir Keith's question of respect for truth. Philosophers have for a long time expressed their respect for truth through their reluctance to identify it with our perception of it.

The rest of Sir Keith's letter bears on the vital question of freedom of speech. As one who is as committed as he is to the defence of freedom of speech, I think we do this cause no service by identifying it with respect for truth. To us, the two are inseparable, but to many others, they have not been so. It was not in the name of any respect for truth that non-Christians were denied admission to Oxford and Cambridge until times almost within living memory. We can only defend freedom of speech successfully if we can identify, and refute, the really dangerous belief held by our opponents: that freedom of speech is not a handmaiden to the truth, but a danger to it. This belief, though always dangerous, is older than living memory, and less prevalent now than it has been in most centuries of the universities' existence.

Yours sincerely,
CONRAD RUSSELL,
Bedford College,
St John's Hall,
Inner Circle,
Regent's Park, NW1.

Soviet prisoners of war

From Mr Nicholas Bethell
Sir, In his letter (December 7) about the forcible repatriation of Russians in 1945 General Sir Horatius Murray cites it as my opinion that an officer who always obeys orders, however much he disapproves of them. If he looks at my book *The Last Secret* again he will see that I certainly do not support this "theory" not to reason why "I cannot write that some senior British officers serving with General Murray in Austria in 1945 held this as a firm principle and used this principle to justify the violent acts against unarmed people which took place under their orders." For instance, General Murray's corps commander, Lieutenant General Sir Charles Keightley wrote to me shortly before he died earlier this year: "The repatriation of the Cossacks was of course an order from the army, and certainly stemmed from Winston himself. Whether we were happy about the operation or not therefore really did not come into it." And General Sir Geoffrey Munn, in 1945, the brigadier under whose command some of the most difficult operations were done, said to me in a recent BBC interview: "A soldier is an agent of government policy, and if he is given an order, it is his duty to obey it, and the repercussions and any facts that may not be known to his superiors, but having made those representations he must carry out the order. He is not in a position to judge the right and wrong of any particular case."

General Murray bent his orders, thus allowing many anti-Stalin Cossacks and anti-Tito Yugoslavs to escape the awful justice that awaited them at home, and most thinking people today will probably feel that he was right to do so. But 1945 was before the Nuremberg Trials, and I think that most British officers then still believed in the pure professional ethic of obedience to all orders.

Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS BETHELL,
73 Sussex Square, W2.

Pensioners' beef vouchers

From Miss Emily Kinneir
Sir, As another pensioner who has also handed her beef coupons over to the Post Office counter, I cannot understand the feeling of humiliation experienced by your correspondent (Letters Dec 4). I feel that I have given to my country a lifetime of work, and that the acceptance of the beef coupons is in no way more humiliating than the acceptance of my very well earned state pension. Also, in the Post Office to which I went, every pensioner was asked whether or not he (she) wished to accept them.

Death penalty for terrorists

From Mr D. T. Leonard
Sir, It is disappointing that the emphasis so far in the debate on capital punishment has been on questions of deterrence and revenge. Surely the most important question is that of justice.

Justice demands correction, not to gratify personal spite or primitive emotions, but because it is right. The principle of an eye for an eye when viewed in this light is far from being barbaric. In fact it is the ultimate justice and therefore, but only in passing, is probably the best deterrent since it strikes the right balance. A penalty which favours the wrongdoer does not deter and increases a sense of injustice in the sufferer; whereas a penalty which is too oppressive produces a counter-reaction which finds public support.

One of the prime responsibilities of Government is to secure justice for its citizens, and those who are afraid or unwilling to do so are failing in their duty. Those who oppose capital punishment have yet to prove that alternative solutions secure justice for the person wronged, and it would be scandalous if justice were to be denied merely because of the unimpaired consciences of the uniformed consciences of the public.

Yours faithfully,
D. T. LEONARD,
29 Lichfield Road,
Woodford Green,
Essex.
December 5.

British Leyland's troubles

From Mr J. Bruce-Gardyne
Sir, Yesterday's news about the proposed rescue operation for British Leyland should surely give pause for thought.

The role of Finance for Industry: just one month ago when it was revealed that the institutions were being browbeaten into the provision of £1,000,000 for FFI to lend on to industry it was stated categorically both by Government and on behalf of FFI that it was not to be a "lender of last resort". Yesterday, however, Mr Wedgwood Benn told the Commons that the FFI "might possibly" have a role to play in the British Leyland rescue.

Second, it is interesting to note that Sir Don Ryder, the Government's new Industrial Adviser, is widely quoted as deploring the demise of the Industrial Reorganisation Corporation. His first task now is to try and sort out the affairs of British Leyland. And who or what was responsible for establishing British Leyland in the first place, just six years ago? Why, the IRC, of course.

Third, we read that production workers at Cowley yesterday chose the day their company finally acknowledged it had run out of cash to launch a claim for a £16 a week pay rise. Now that they have Mr Wedgwood Benn's assurance of the taxpayer's cash behind them they will no doubt be less modest in their demands in future.

Yours faithfully,
J. BRUCE-GARDYNE,
13 Kelso Place, W8.
December 7.

Clergy stipends

From the Reverend R. F. G. Pearce
Sir, If everyone who goes to one church service per Sunday would put 50 pence in the collection plate instead of the national average of 17 pence per week for all church-going, direct and indirect per member of the Church of England electoral roll, the problem would be solved. There might even be some money left over for more essential matters like giving to missions.

Yours faithfully,
REGINALD F. G. PEARCE, Vicar of Laneside with St Clether & Treasures, Laneside Vicarage, Launceston, Cornwall.
December 7.

Not there a risk also when we dispatch terrorists to gaol? Perhaps the former risk is greater than the latter but who is to draw the line between an acceptable risk and an unacceptable one?

If the IRA perceive that we shrink from hanging their murderous thugs because of the possibility of retribution, would it be unreasonable for them to conclude that actual acts of vengeance will secure the release of their comrades? Can any society based upon the rule of law allow its penal system to be determined by such factors?

Yours faithfully,
KEVIN R. PRATT,
Department of Law,
University College of Wales,
Aberystwyth,
Cardiganshire,
December 7.

From Miss Mary Newman
Sir, It must be overwhelmingly clear that the majority of the electorate demand the death penalty for terrorists. If Mr Hutchinson's reasons against hanging are to be accepted, would not a firing squad made up of our soldiers in Ireland who have witnessed acts of cold blooded murder, be the best answer to a most difficult problem?

Yours faithfully,
MARY NEWMAN,
50 Kensington Mansions,
Earls Court, SW5.

From Miss V. N. Cross
Sir, God forbid that capital punishment should ever be reintroduced in this country, but would not life imprisonment, and I mean imprisonment for life, act as a deterrent to the perpetrators of indiscriminate bombings and murders such as have occurred at Guildford and Birmingham?

Yours faithfully,
VIOLET CROSS,
The Manor House,
Hazelbury Bryan,
Sturminster Newton,
Dorset.
December 6.

Social contract as law

From Lord Luke
Sir, One aspect of the Social Contract which should not be forgotten is that one part of it—the restraint of wages—is presumably temporary, the other parts of the Contract take the form of legislation—which is permanent.

What happens to the permanent side when the temporary is broken or cancelled?

Yours faithfully,
LUKE,
Odeil Castle,
Odeil,
Bedfordshire.
December 3.

From Mr John Taylor
Sir, Since the April coup in Lisbon, Portugal's change in foreign policy has had a profound effect on the situation in its colony of East Timor. For the first time in 400 years of colonial rule, the 650,000 people of East Timor may at last be able to determine their own political future. All available evidence indicates that they will vote overwhelmingly in favour of political independence from Portugal.

However, information coming both from inside Timor and Indonesia, and also from Australia, reveals that this possibility for political independence is once again threatened. The Indonesian army is seriously discussing the possibility of annexing Timor into the Republic through a military invasion.

A regime known both for its denial of democratic freedoms and its imprisonment of 70,000 political prisoners without trial, seems ready to deny the Timorese people's right to determine their own future. The possibility of an Indonesian military annexation was recently discussed in the Australian parliament and has been mentioned on many occasions in the Indonesian government-controlled press and radio.

An appeal has gone out from the people of East Timor for world-wide opinion to make itself heard in an attempt to restrain the Indonesian military government before it is too late. We earnestly entreat readers of *The Times* to add what weight they can to this plea.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN TAYLOR, Secretary,
The British Indonesia Committee,
21 Solon Road, S.W.2.
December 1.

Year break before university

From Professor Gurth Higgins
Sir, In his letter to you today (December 2) the Vice-Chancellor and Principal of Brunel University, while making some useful points, seems to be starting with an outdated premise.

Professor Bragg starts from the proposition that "the natural progression for all members of society is from education to jobs". Further, he seems to accept that the function of the university sandwich course is to make this terminal transition between education and work even more final by combining professional training, usually thought of as following university, with the university course.

In this he appears to be building his argument around the concept of the career. This concept is based on the postulate that the process of education ceases on leaving school or university and is replaced by achievement, a process of relentless pursuit through a knowable linear succession of roles "out there".

If there is a later re-crossing of the boundary to the educational world it is purely to top up with facts or techniques the better to pursue a career. This approach with its implicit denial of the possibility of growth and change in individual interests and types of capacity, is the very opposite of education permanent.

I would suggest that in our current situation this is a dangerously outmoded approach. Over the last generation or so we have moved from conditions of scarcity into affluence and now into conditions of overcapacity. At the same time our relatively independent and controllable economic and social systems have been irretrievably penetrated by a developing global economic and social order we can no longer independently control. The "out there" we all, and particularly our young people, make the best of is no longer knowable as it once may have been; and certainly is not amenable to the fixed survey lines of careers.

We need now, within our educational institutions as much as outside them, is institutional and personal adaptability, a willingness to change, to learn and re-learn, to exploit and not be half ashamed of our own internal growth. We need to match the external uncertainty with creative internal uncertainty, a process of change, not the confines of a career, but education permanent.

Yours faithfully,
GURTH HIGGINS,
Professor of Continuing Education,
Department of Management Studies,
Loughborough University of Technology,
Leicestershire.

From Mr A. E. Langton
Sir, Dr Alec Dickson in his letter which you published on December 4 rightly draws attention to the organisations, which owe their origin to him, and which endeavour to fill "the break" by giving young people an opportunity to volunteer for community service.

It is true that VSO has had to curtail its "school-leaver" scheme to concentrate on sending graduates abroad. The Project Trust is endeavouring to fill that gap by sending school-leavers abroad to selected tasks for periods of up to one year.

May I suggest that the "break" is just as, if not more, important for those going direct from school into business, industry or profession, and that employers in these fields might look with a favourable eye on those who have good reports after a year of voluntary service.

Yours faithfully,
T. B. LANGTON, Chairman,
The Project Trust,
22 Whitelie Street, SE1.

Changing air routes

From Mr James Crooks
Sir, Mr G. L. Wicks in his letter which you published in your issue of December 5 asks that there should be a public enquiry before a change of air route is made, so that those who will be subjected to the noise of over-flying aircraft may make their objections known.

I agree with him, but would warn him that at a public enquiry upon Luton's plans for expansion of its airport, local residents won our case and in January 1973 the Minister concerned refused to sanction the plans. Within a year the same Minister had changed his mind and gave permission for the greater part of the Luton expansion to be carried out, and this without any further consultation with our local protest groups.

It cost us about £10,000 to put our case and it seems there is not much hope of seeing any of it back, although the Minister's decision in our favour was subsequently reversed by him.

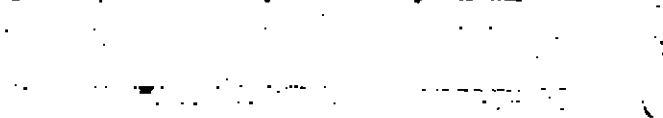
Yours faithfully,
JAMES CROOKS,
Meadow Farm,
Ringshall,
Berks/Hants,
Hertfordshire.

Austerity for parsons

From Rev Richard Cavendish
Sir, May I offer, in my old age, a few hints to my brethren as austerity comes upon us:

1. Sell your car. Use a taxi if there is no public transport.
2. Cut out 90 per cent of those awful meetings where all is talk and little done.
3. Cut out the telephone. Mr Knox refused to use this modern form of torture.
4. Give away that telly. A good book is worth a hundred transmissions.
5. Use your garden and thank God you have such a luxury.
6. Educate your own children. They will learn more in a year than they will in three years at most schools.
7. As for six days a week you are master of your own time, stop pretending you need a holiday.
8. Never retail your own begging bowl, and keep your independence. In short, stick in your own parish and tend your own sheep.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD CAVENDISH,
6 Kelsey Way,
Deckenham, Kent.
December 8.



The final part of a Special Report to mark 10 years of independence

Tanzania

railway construction time cut

Ian Rake

An Development

Tanzam railway provided a new link to the Indian Ocean through the sea. Since then the line has been used to transport most construction equipment and a nominal quantity of goods from Dar es Salaam to the border, where road transport takes over.

The railway crossed the border in 1973. Since then the line has been used to transport most construction equipment and a nominal quantity of goods from Dar es Salaam to the border, where road transport takes over.

The line was finished in time for the 10th anniversary of the country's independence on October 24. It is likely to be completed early next year.

It will then be needed to transport goods and passengers to the running of the line, and passengers to the end of the line.

question is still asked whether the line will ever be economically viable. Political considerations have always been most in past dreams of the line, though it was hoped that it would be economically viable.

Finally it was Cecil who imagined the line as an essential link in his vision of the country from the Cape to the Nile.

His hopes ended in the middle of a swamp at Broken where the line ended. purely economic conditions took his line, not Tanzania, but through the ga copper belt and to a Lobito.

Kenneth Kaunda first convinced of the need for a railway, survey and design work was done in 1963, despite the un- favorable reports by the

World Bank and other consultants. Later the break up of the Rhodesia railway system (jointly run by Rhodesia and Zambia) and finally Rhodesia's declaration of independence in November 1965 hastened him towards full commitment.

For Dr Kaunda the line allowed a clean break with the white south, freedom from political interference from Rhodesia, and the cementing of good relations with neighbouring Tanzania.

President Nyerere wanted the line because it would help Zambia and provide a major opportunity in opening up the Tanzanian deposits of iron ore, coal and other minerals in the south-west.

President Nyerere was quite happy to allow his new-found Chinese friends the opportunity to build the line. He had visited China in 1963 and was impressed with its economic system and was glad of the opportunity to involve China in Tanzania's assistance.

The Chinese saw the "friendship railway" as a means of correcting their major diplomatic blunders in Africa at the beginning of the independence decade. It would be a spectacular project in which China could demonstrate its solidarity and sincerity to the African people.

marked contrast to the parsimony of the West, which has always considered the project economically unviable. China advanced \$150m as an interest free loan and did not ask for any capital repayments before 1983. After that payments were to be made at the rate of \$2.75m a year each by Tanzania and Zambia.

The heavy local costs were met equally by the two African governments. Once again China was prepared to help by supplying Chinese goods under commodity credit agreements which could be sold and used to defray local costs. From the Chinese point of view this was a wonderful way of securing a firm foothold in the Tanzanian and Zambian markets for its goods.

Protocols relating to the loan, survey and design work were signed in Dar es Salaam in 1963, despite the unfavorable reports by the

into the ground in October 1970 to inaugurate the construction. At that time the line seemed thoroughly justified. The Benguela railway line through Angola was used for Zambia trade, but the Zambians were not happy at routing their material through a colony ruled by Portugal and the line was vulnerable to guerrilla attack. The route through Zaire was far too costly and expensive. Until Rhodesia finally closed its border on January 9, 1973, in an attempt to punish Zambia for allowing guerrillas to operate, Zambia still found the Rhodesian route the quickest, most efficient and least costly of all. Until the day of closure Zambia sent 50 per cent of its exports and brought in 60 per cent of its imports through Rhodesia.

Rhodesia's border closure gave Zambia its final pretext to make a clean break. It took the opportunity to seal its frontier permanently and mount a giant rerouting operation. A team from the United Nations estimated that the problem could be overcome by sending most of Zambia's copper by the newly-tarred highway to Dar es Salaam. But the road transport was not adequate, and the Benguela railway took ever-increasing tonnages carried almost the whole of Zambia's copper exports before the port of Lobito became congested in August.

The Benguela railway has built its own new extension, the Cubal viaduct, which cuts over the old and twisting route and steep gradient which limited the capacity of the line. The opening of Cubal in October has increased the capacity of the line by 45 per cent, in addition to the vastly increased tonnages that it was already carrying after the Rhodesia border closure. So if Lobito port returns to normal Benguela could handle nearly the whole of Zambia's current trade.

At the same time Malawi is doing everything it can to speed the creation of an industrial complex based on the Kiwira and Songwe coal fields and the Chunya iron ore deposits. The Chinese would be prepared to build the 250km railway between the two mineral finds and link it to Tanzania.

Thus Zambia, which was desperate for effective rail export routes at the time Tanzania was starting now finds that it has an interesting variety of alternative choices. There is even the chance that if Rhodesia crumbles within a few years, Zambia could go back to its old routes through Rhodesia to the uncluttered port of Beira in Mozambique.

Meanwhile there are additional problems at Dar es Salaam port where the Tanzam railroad finishes. For five years the port has suffered from congestion. Despite heavy investment in new berths and handling equipment the congestion today is as bad as ever. Only recently the United Kingdom shipping conference applied a 30 per cent surcharge on all export traffic to match the 30 per cent already imposed on imports.

A major difficulty at the port is the location of the berths. The theory is that Tanzam traffic should use the southern end of Dar es Salaam docks while East African Railways uses the northern end. But when ships have been waiting for weeks for berthing space they will want to off-load all cargo, regardless of its final destination. If the cargo for the two systems gets mixed up congestion is likely to be worse, because the experience of the past five years shows that the Dar authorities cannot even handle a steady flow of traffic for one system.

Thus it seems highly likely that Tanzania will by no means become the sole solution to Zambia's logistic problems. The line will certainly be useful and efficient, but Dar es Salaam is likely to be a continuing difficulty. But the railway is bringing new hope for industrial and mineral development in south-west Tanzania.

The Chinese have just granted a \$25m loan for a survey and preliminary operations that could lead to the creation of an industrial complex based on the Kiwira and Songwe coal fields and the Chunya iron ore deposits. The Chinese would be prepared to build the 250km railway between the two mineral finds and link it to Tanzania.

The world takes note of the Tanzam railway much less because it is a new transport route on a strategic area than because it represents a massive Chinese aid project—nearly half the money offered to sub-Saharan Africa in the past four years. Tanzania and Zambia are sharing the costs equally and repayment of a long-term Chinese loan; but the two African countries approached the scheme with slightly differing objectives.

For Zambia the railway represents a realistic opportunity to break away from established trading routes through the country to the south. For Tanzania the railway offers an opportunity to strengthen relations with Zambia; but, in addition, a chance to open up a thinly populated region of the country.

It is ironic that when in the early 1960s a World Bank study was made of the railway's feasibility, an objection advanced was that the low level of development in south-east Tanzania would not justify the heavy expense of the railway. In the Tanzanian view this argument could easily be turned on its head; proved mineral deposits and potential agricultural land could not be exploited because of the absence of adequate transport links.

The completion of the railway brings enormous pressures to the port of Dar es Salaam. However, the administrative role of Dar as the nation's capital is to be transferred to Dodoma in the centre of the country. The railway is also an incentive to the Government to pursue its policy of encouraging regional growth in the south-eastern part of the country.

Both Tanzania and Zambia made serious attempts to interest western financial backers in the railway, and

Tanzanian ministers were almost startled when China first gave signs of a willingness to help on the necessary large scale. It is arguable that the Chinese decision and the western powers' refusal is comparable with Russia's decision to help to build the Aswan Dam in Egypt; but the truth cannot safely be judged for many years to come.

First there was apprehension, even in some quarters in Tanzania, about the effect of an influx of Chinese engineers and construction workers, although President Julius Nyerere was quick to point out how few were the Chinese workers compared with the numbers of white people coming to Tanzania from western powers. Over the years of railway building there has been increasing evidence of the Chinese determination not to use industrial projects as a means of implanting permanent cadres of Chinese.

Other industrial projects, notably in Zanzibar, have been handed over as soon as it was felt that Chinese workers could bow out gracefully. The early indications are that this pattern will be followed for the railway scheme. China has also given training in China to African railwaymen and they, rather than the visiting technicians, will be the inheritors of the task of running the railway. The Chinese in Tanzania have also acted modestly and with strong personal and political discipline so that their impact outside government circles has been less noticeable than their numbers would suggest.

China has had impact in Tanzania on consumer trading, although it is early to assess the long-term result. As a part of the loan agreement it was decided that Tanzania (and Zambia) would finance local costs, particularly for labour, through the importation of Chinese goods to be sold for profit, predominantly through state-controlled stores.

This created for China an immediate market which it could scarcely have hoped to gain so soon after independence when consumer tastes in Tanzania were so strongly conditioned towards British-made or British-style goods. The arrangement has also entrenched a

degree of Chinese competition against goods that otherwise might have been manufactured in Tanzania. Tanzania was given a seven-year commodity credit agreement which provided goods to sell immediately against repayments due to begin in 1983, and this time scale does make feasible a change in consumption patterns in Tanzania.

It certainly allows time for the building of accepted trade routes which are not easily challenged by world competitors, particularly if China is willing to maintain competitive low prices. China is as much entitled as any country to sell goods to Tanzania; but with official trading on the high scale, necessitated by the size of the railway labour force, it becomes imperative for Tanzanian buyers to select their purchases most carefully at Chinese trade fairs.

It was almost inevitable in the early days of the arrangement that unsuitable goods were sometimes bought and had to be pushed through the machinery of Tanzanian state trading.

President Nyerere was impressed with the discipline shown in China and has said that African peasants and workers can learn important lessons from the Chinese experience, although it is not possible for many Tanzanian peasants to witness this directly. But this is a side effect of the Tanzam railway.

Dr Nyerere first wanted a railway, then it changed that China came in to help. The test of the plan will not be on the shop shelves of Tanzania but in the southern highlands of the country and in jobs at Mbeja, which is to be enlarged as a market and trading centre, for the surrounding rural area.

The building of the railway, speedily and quietly, after years of cavilling and criticism from western advisers is an important achievement for Tanzania and Zambia and for China, which has gained as much international prestige as it could have looked for from an expensive and difficult undertaking. If China has gained influence, it has been earned and in Tanzania official eyes it is as much through determined support for African liberation struggle as through civil engineering skills.



Chinese and Tanzanian officials watch the first train running on the Tanzam railway.

Incentive to pursue regional growth

by Michael Wolfers

The world takes note of the Tanzam railway much less because it is a new transport route on a strategic area than because it represents a massive Chinese aid project—nearly half the money offered to sub-Saharan Africa in the past four years. Tanzania and Zambia are sharing the costs equally and repayment of a long-term Chinese loan; but the two African countries approached the scheme with slightly differing objectives.

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tening village collectivization, the country will see great shifts of population. People have clustered in the north of the country and will be encouraged to disperse southwards.

The Kilombero river escarpment, for example, becomes accessible for the first time for the movement of produce. Southern Tanzania has large proved deposits of iron and coal which have never been exploited and indications of other mineral resources.

To take advantage of these will require more spending and the Government's long-term development plans envisage the possibility of iron ore mining on a large scale and integrated steel-making.

Tanzania had studied the implications of the railway project long before the Chinese were thought of as possible donors of the initial capital loan. The initial plans date from the colonial era in Africa, before the People's Republic of China was founded.

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ADVERTISEMENT

THE UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM 1961-1974

13 YEARS OF PROGRESS

As Tanzania's ruling Party (TANU) celebrates its 20th birthday, the University of Dar es Salaam is 13 years old.

The Foundation year coincided with the year Tanganyika got its independence—1961. On 25th October 1961 the University College Dar es Salaam was born with an intake of 14 students into the Faculty of Law. Indeed this was a step towards TANU's efforts towards becoming self-reliant in high-level manpower. The college, which was one of three Colleges forming the University of East Africa up to 1970 was temporarily housed at Lumumba Street in a four storey building belonging to ANU. This clearly shows TANU's strong desire to see to it that an institution of higher learning was established in the newly independent Tanganyika without delay.

In June 1964 the College moved to the Observation Hill Site—The Present Campus—13 kilometres from the city of

Dar es Salaam. The buildings at the new campus were formally opened in August 1964 by Mwalimu J. K. Nyerere the President of the party who is also the President of the United Republic of Tanzania and at the same time the Chancellor of the University.

By the year 1963 the initial intake had more than doubled. It had risen from 14 students to 34 students per academic year. In 1964 the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences was opened. This was followed by the Faculty of Science in 1965. The expansion did not end there. In 1968 the Faculty of Medicine was established by upgrading the former Dar es Salaam School of Medicine, and the Chancellor of the University of East Africa conferred degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of the University of East Africa to the first group of 15 graduates.

The Faculty of Agriculture was established in 1969 at Morogoro, 200 kilometres from the city of Dar es Salaam. At the moment this Faculty is offering a forestry course as well.

By 1969, the University College, Dar es Salaam, had produced a total of 539 graduates in the following disciplines: 221 had qualified in Law, 268 in Arts, 35 in Science and 15 in Medicine and Surgery.

On 1st July, 1970, each of the three Colleges of the University of East Africa became a separate University. This was surely a sign of expansion, as the 30 million East Africans could not be adequately served by only one University. Looking at the University of Dar es Salaam in an East African context, there is the Inter-University Committee for East Africa. This Committee had been set up for the purpose of maintaining academic cooperation and continued Academic Communication between the University of Dar es

Salaam and the University of Nairobi in Kenya and Makerere in Uganda.

The establishment of the University of Dar es Salaam meant that Tanzania had reached a stage where it could produce its high level manpower in circumstances and under conditions wholly decided and guided by the National Ethic. Like any other University in the world, the University of Dar es Salaam has the duty to teach, train and do research. Teaching and other related activities like research are geared to the needs of Tanzania. Tuition is given in the context of the policy that "education must take place within the context of a society in which every member contributes by his work to the well-being of the community as a whole."

Besides the other five faculties mentioned, the Faculty of Engineering was started last year with an intake of 61 students. This Faculty offers a four year undergraduate course leading to the award of Bachelor of Science (Engineering) Degree of the University of Dar es Salaam. Facilities will be provided in the near future for higher degree courses to be offered in Engineering.

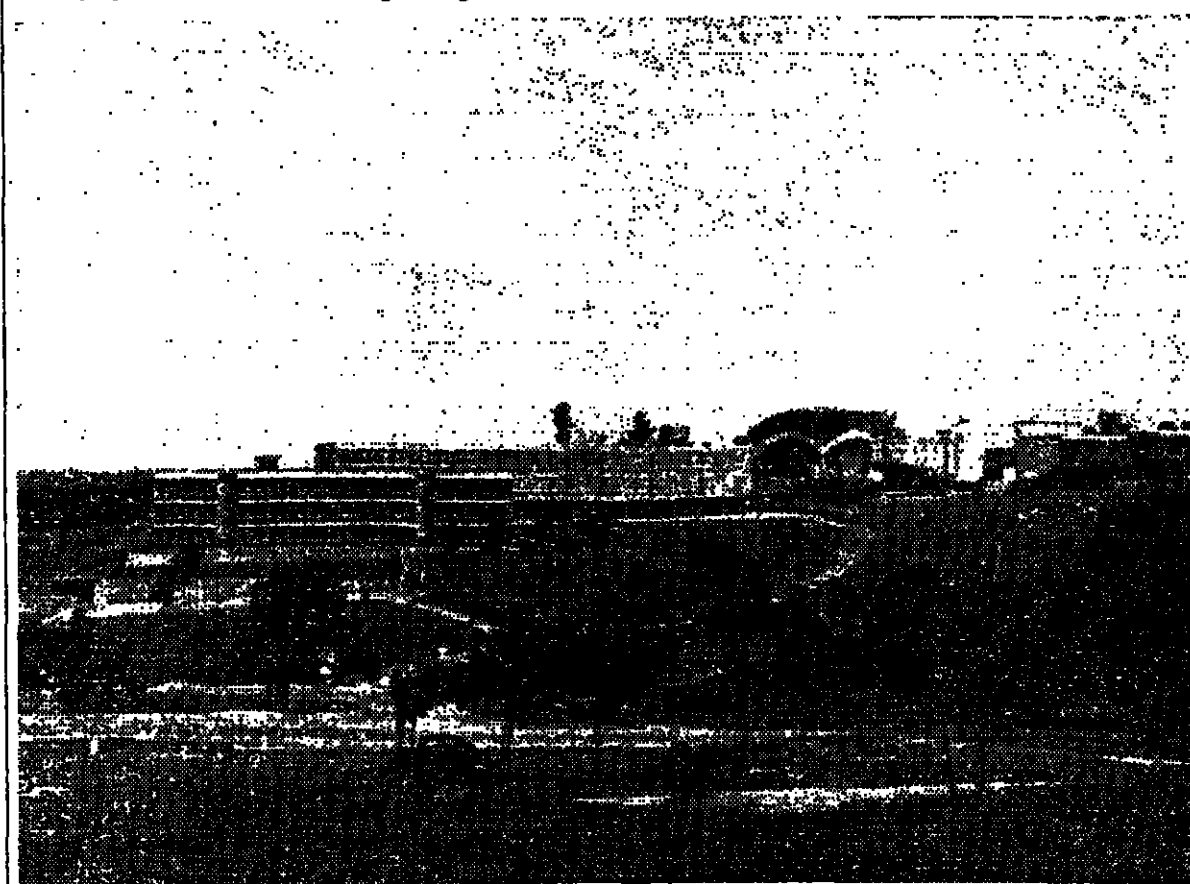
Students registered in the University for undergraduate courses at the moment amount to about 2,500 and 182 are registered for higher degrees.

The Faculty of Arts and Social Science has two research bureaux—namely Economic Research Bureau (E.R.B.) and Bureau of Resources Assessment and Land Use Planning (BRALUP). These bureaux concern themselves primarily with applied research in their relevant fields.

There are four Institutes at the University of Dar es Salaam namely the Institute of Adult Education, Institute of Education, Institute of Kiswahili Research and the Institute of Development Studies.

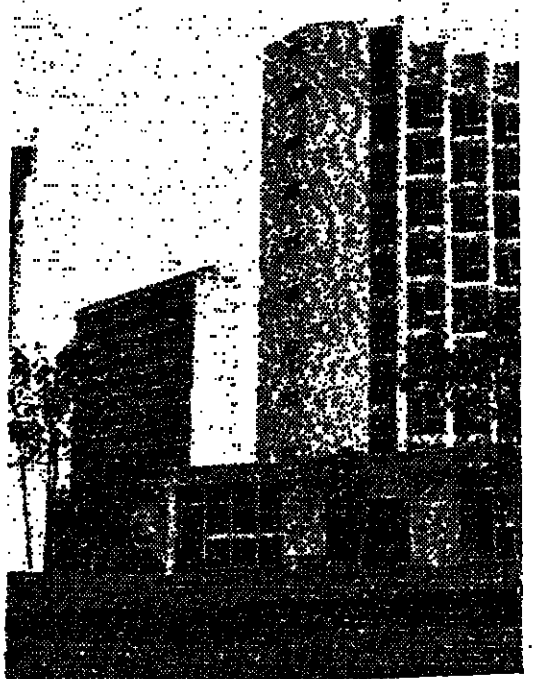


The Chancellor conferring a Degree on a Graduate



UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM

Foreground—Faculty of Law Building followed by the Library at the middle—the dome shaped building is the Assembly Hall—far right are the two Arts Lecture Theatres.



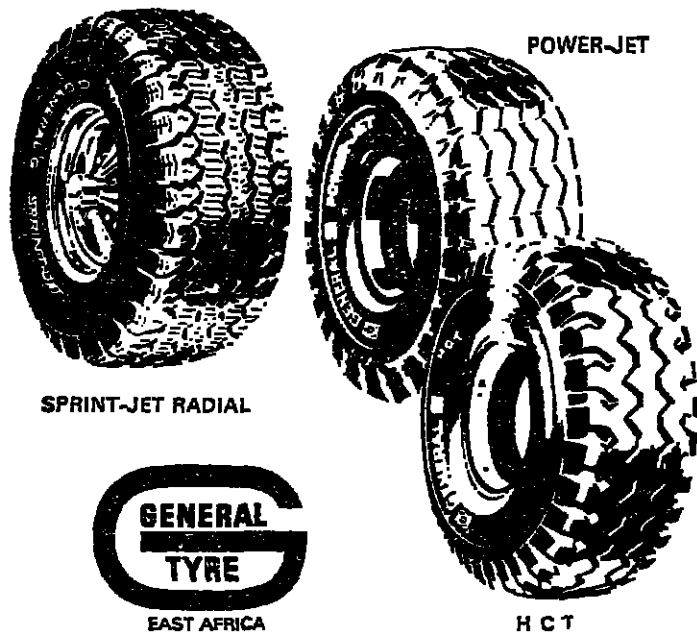
UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM

Two of the six halls of residence—typical

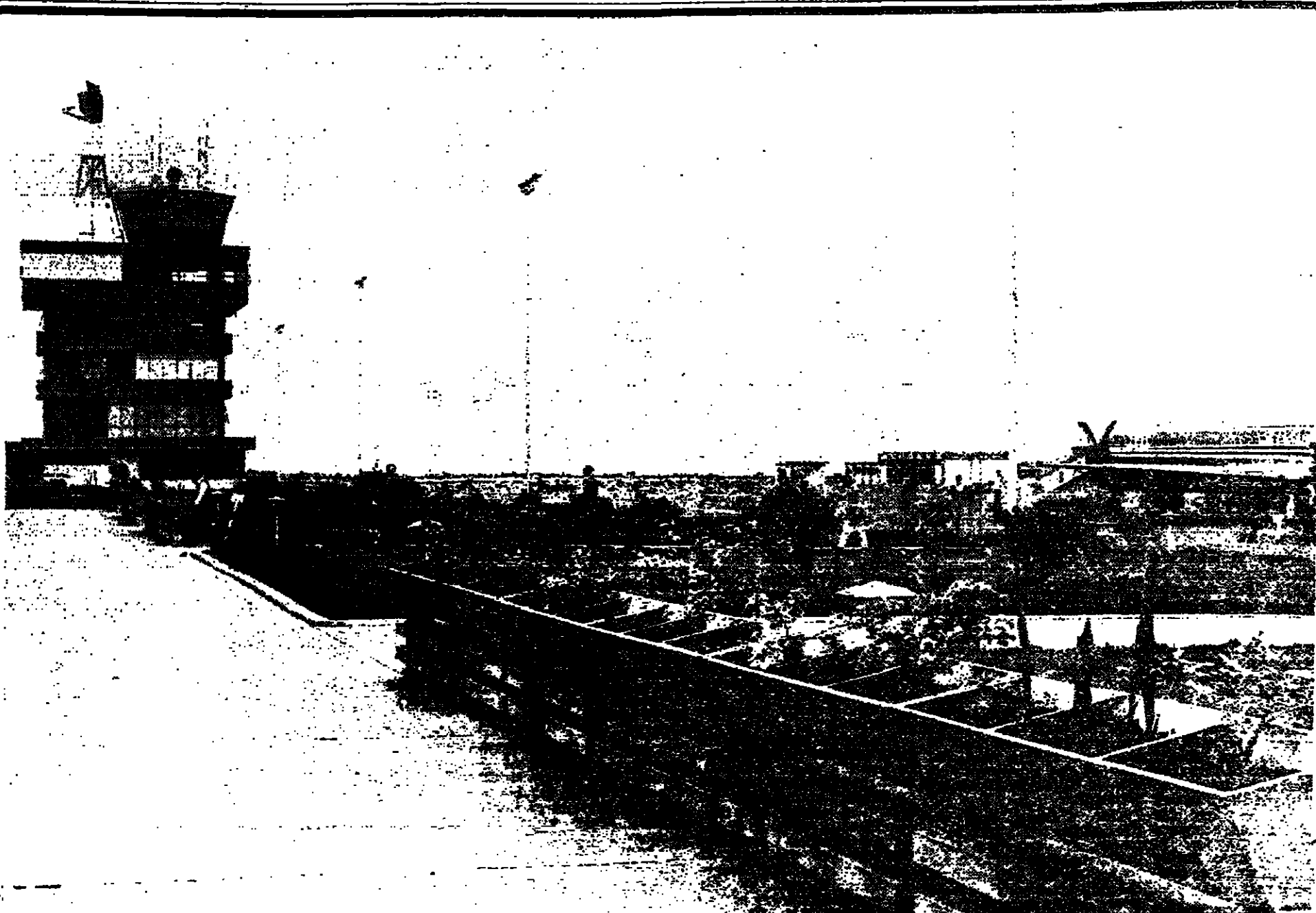
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The new Kilimanjaro airport, built with the intention of bringing tourists straight to Tanzania's wildlife country, has not been able to break Nairobi's hold on visitors.

Road grid helps to draw 125 tribes into one nation

by Alan Hutchison

Although for most Tanzanians the foot and the voice remain the most common and effective means of communication, the Government has invested considerable resources in the past 10 years in modernizing and maintaining communications. Nearly 80 per cent of the capital budget of the second five-year plan, which ended this year, was devoted to this purpose. Independence found Tanganyika, as it was then, with an adequate railway system (but geared more to the export of crops than the carriage of people), minimal air and telephone communications and just a few hundred miles of tarred road. Improved communications became a priority, not primarily for economic reasons but for social ones. Like many colonized countries in Africa Tanganyika was an ethnic, and to a lesser extent, a geographical eccentricity, to achieve better cohesion among its different people

(125 tribes) and far-flung regions, and to inculcate a sense of one nation, improved communications facilities were essential. Later, political reasons joined social ones, notably in the construction of the Tanzam railway, built to give Zambia a lifeline through friendly territory. Thus few of Tanzania's many communications projects were motivated primarily by economic considerations, although naturally the Government hopes for some economic results from all of them. The major road strategy has been to lay a grid of all-weather highways over the country, maintained by the central Communications Ministry, with the smaller feeder roads joining into them and kept up by local authorities, or in some cases by *ujamaa* villagers. The main east-west road is the recently completed Tanzania-Zambia highway, which now replaces the notorious Hell Run. Built with American, Swedish and World Bank help, it runs

from Dar es Salaam to Tunduma on the Zambian border, along roughly the same route taken by the Tanzam railway. In the north the Lake Victoria port of Mwanza, centre of the cotton growing area, is connected by an all-weather road to the Indian Ocean port of Tanga. The major north-south axis is the tarred road from Dar es Salaam to Arusha, headquarters of the East African Community; in the centre of the country an all-weather road threads down from Mwanza, through Tabora to Mbeya. Tanzania's railways, harbours, air transport and telecommunications come under the purview of the East African Community. Indeed, the corporations are virtually all that is left of the community, the principle of a free trade area having been long ago dispensed with, along with rational allocation of industry, the inter-territorial tax department and a common currency.

Earlier this year even the community's greatest admirers wondered whether it could weather the storm of continual skirmishing, some of it physical, between Tanzania and Uganda, and a series of financial scandals affecting all the corporations. Basically the trouble has been the unwillingness of profitable regional centres to remit profits to a headquarters organization situated in "alien" territory. Thus Mombasa harbour authorities have been reluctant to "subsidize" the less efficient Dar es Salaam; Tanzania and Uganda refused to transfer funds to Nairobi, the headquarters of the railways corporation, while Kenya and Tanzania held back money owing to Kampala, where the Posts and Telecommunications Corporation has its headquarters. The corporation has undoubtedly been inefficient, and guilty of mismanagement and unnecessary waste of funds, shortcomings exposed by various select committees and acknowledged in the Legislative Assembly. Happily, some of these are now being rectified, by the appointment of outside experts (notably in East African Airways).

where an Eastern Airlines team has effected rapid improvement in efficiency and morale) and by the continued injection of foreign capital, especially by the World Bank, which has always regarded the community as one of the more hopeful regional groupings in the developing world. But the events of the past year have made each partner state wonder whether it could not run its own affairs more efficiently, even allowing for the loss in economies of scale. Already Tanzania has made it clear that the Tanzam railway will be administered by a separate railway authority while each partner has their foreign exchange looked, or is still looking, into the possibility of setting up a national airline.

This development is a great pity, but given the diverse natures of the political systems and priorities of Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya, it is not all that surprising. Tanzania's attempts to go it alone in communications have met with mixed success. Convinced that Kenya was getting most tourists because visitors could fly direct to Nairobi, Tanzania built, with Italian assistance, the new Kilimanjaro international airport on the Serengeti plains near Arusha. The theory was that tourists would fly directly into the heart of the wildlife country, and spend also some 35 per cent of their foreign exchange in ZamTan Road Services. However, company formed to Zambia export its capital has pre-empted UDI.

and Tanzania had little success in suading tourists to fly directly to Kilimanjaro. Infuriated visitors on the (Tanzam) northern circuit will inate from and spend of their money in Kenya capital. A happier story has the establishment of a shipping line with Ci which now owns three to carry trade between two countries, thus a foreign exchange over paid to commercial companies for freight and insurance. The Govern also owns 35 per cent in ZamTan Road Services. However, company formed to Zambia export its capital has pre-empted UDI.

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on eland farm . . .

Wild, eland are perhaps the shyest of all of Africa's animals. Yet at this farm, on the slopes of Mount Anjaru, they eat out of your hand. The small herd is a pioneer project to establish how easy it would be to domesticate Tanzania's teeming wildlife, and convert it into much-needed protein for human consumption.

Experiments, carried out by a local wheat farmer, Mr. Fox, in conjunction with the Mweka Wildlife College at Moshi, have shown that the eland is by far the most suitable candidate for domestication. It takes quickly to the yoke, it is hardy and it is much more efficient than a domestic steer at converting food into weight. This is to confirm experiments carried out in the Soviet Union, where it is believed there are more than a million in captivity.

Nduimet Farm eight calves have already been born alive, and the adults are in good shape. A fully grown adult male can weigh up to 2,000 lb, compared with a maximum of about 1,700 lb for a steer, and they are more resistant to East Coast fever and other tick-borne diseases. They can do with less water than domestic cattle and can make a living in much poorer conditions. Meat has an additional advantage in that it is of a high nutritive value and therefore good for dieters. Its content of milk is said to be good for heart patients and the treatment of ulcers.

Fox has had less success with his efforts to try to domesticate wildebeest, a million of which roam the area just a hundred miles away. Although they are more than eland they reject human handling, and do not take kindly to domestic animals either. Of the herd of four three have had their horns cut, which is hardly surprising since they have killed sheep, broken a cow's leg and impaled a horse.

Mr Fox still believes that nearly every wild animal is amenable to domestication. Once the problem of capture is solved he sees no reason why we should not one day be ordering an elephant T-bone or half a pound of and of oryx.

A. H.



New wildlife parks created to ensure independence

Tanzania's leaders have long seen the responsibility of ensuring the survival of the country's wildlife. In these wild places no human habitation is allowed, except for the game headquarters and tourist lodges; the only distinction between parks and reserves is that hunting concessions could be granted in the latter, but since the ban placed on all hunting last year there is now in theory no difference between the two wildlife areas.

It is often assumed in the developed countries that game conservation in Africa must be a paying proposition, but this is far from the case. It is true that the preservation of wildlife entails a heavy cost, but the economic benefits of tourism tend to be exaggerated. But the upkeep of the national parks far outweighs the direct revenue received; the annual 4m shilling Treasury subvention to the Tanzanian parks authorities means that, per capita, official expenditure on wildlife preservation is greater in Tanzania than in almost any other country.

Entrance fees contribute only 20 per cent of the parks' revenue, while the balance is equally divided between the government subvention and private contributions, mainly from overseas.

In recent years Tanzania's wildlife has suffered from a threat new only in its scale, poaching. Hunting "for the pot" has long been customary, and has not seriously affected the animal population. But the huge rise in world prices for such trophies as ivory and skins has introduced a new commercial element into poaching.

Gangs using vehicles, modern weapons and a good intelligence system are making serious inroads into certain species, particularly the cheetah and the rhinoceros. It is strongly rumoured that government officials, police and even the army are implicated. A European warden, appointed to lead a special anti-poaching squad, had to leave the country after his life had been threatened. The parks officials have to hope that the real poaching culprits, the organizers and middlemen, and not the impoverished peasant who pulls the trigger (or more often than not draws the bow) are brought to book and sentenced. In the meantime they are conducting a campaign to educate Tanzanians in the appreciation of their heritage.

Lions kill children

In a country where village children are still frequently killed by lions, hyenas and other predators and where crops are regularly trampled by herds of elephants it is a daunting task to persuade people that animals should be preserved and admired. But mobile film units are being commissioned to show films about wildlife around the country, organized groups of Tanzanians are allowed into the parks free and their transport to the parks is being subsidized, and children's wildlife painting competitions are being held.

The precious inheritance will shortly be in the hands of the new generation. If they accept it, then both their grandchildren and future visitors whose forebears were not so conscious of their responsibilities will be able to continue to enjoy the wild creatures in their wild places.

A.H.



Marion Kaplan

bras crossing the Serengeti National Park road in Tanzania. p: the tree of knowledge. Schoolchildren learn the advantages of national parks and conservation.

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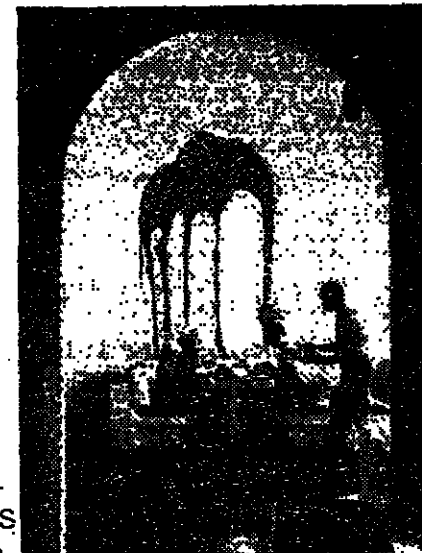
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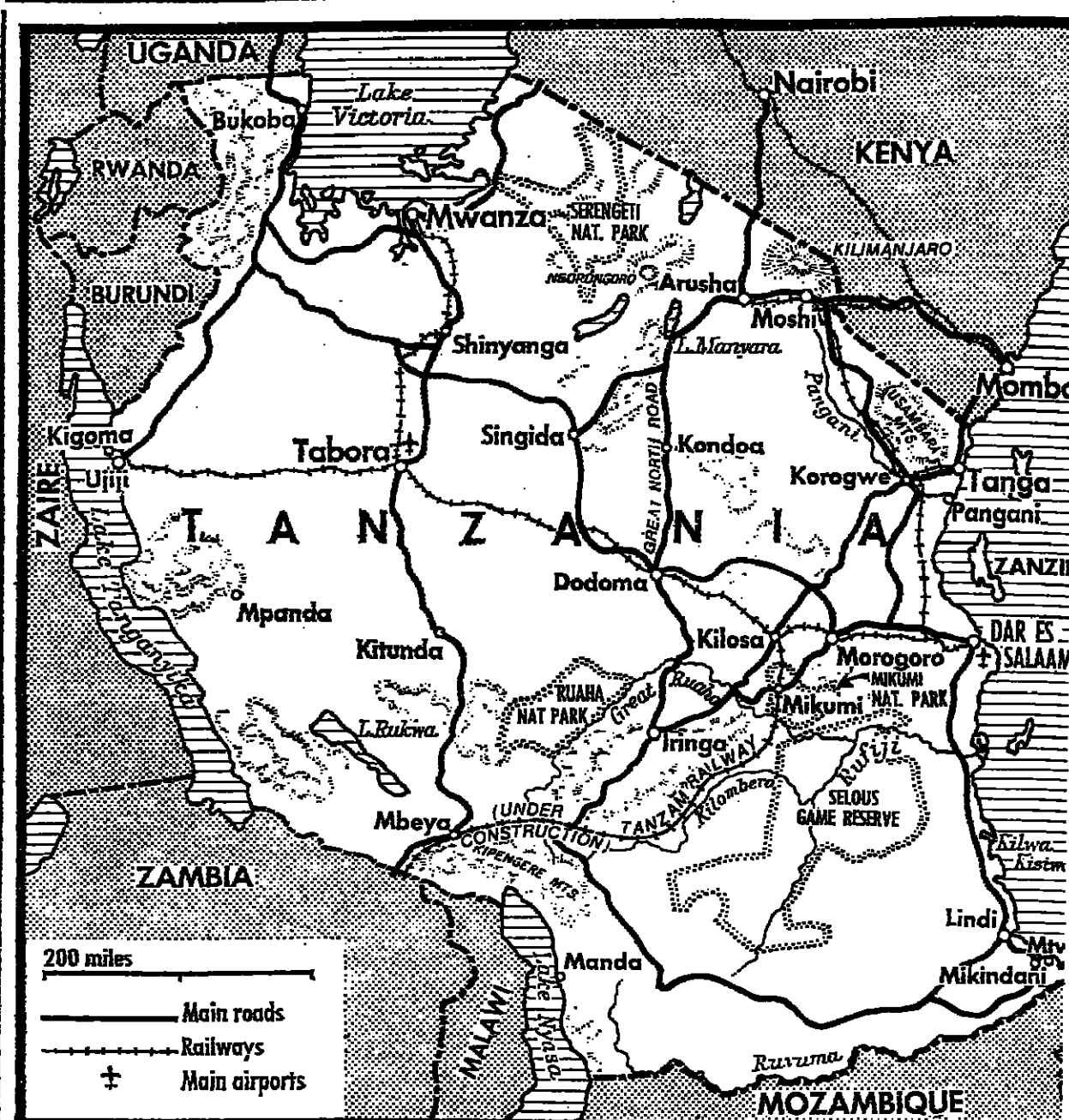
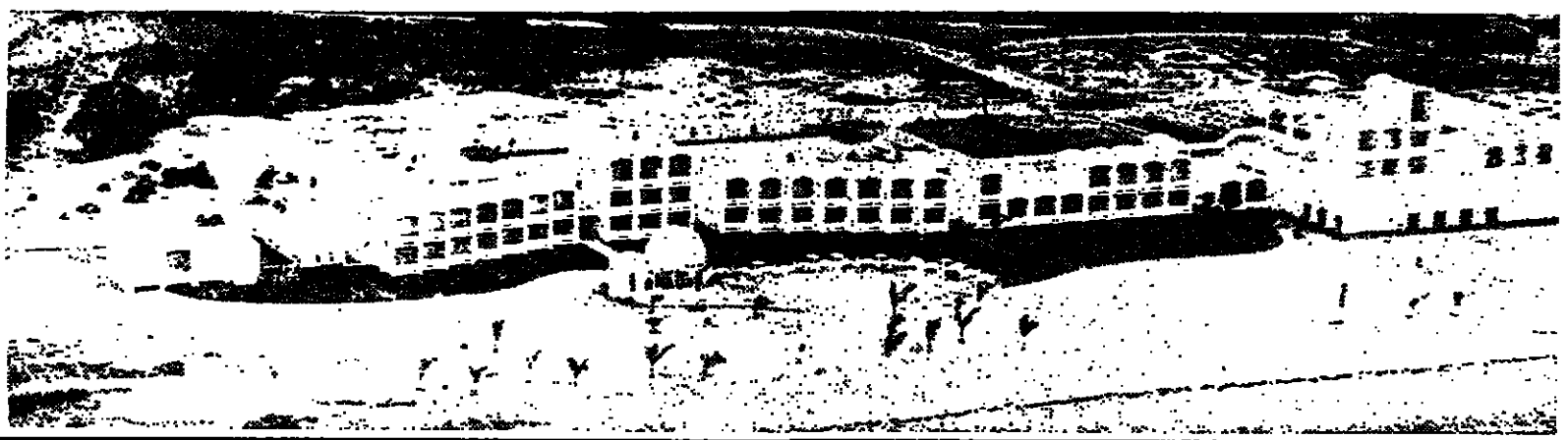
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Unmatched scenery to lure the tourist

by John Young

The first question any visitor to Tanzania is likely to ask is why Kenya seems to get all the publicity. A simple answer is that Kenya has, in 10 years of independence, gone flat out to sell itself to tourists at every level, and the more the merrier. Tanzania, on the other hand, has taken a more equivocal view, and the Government may at times have given the impression that it regards tourists as a necessary evil.

Officials, however, are at great pains to emphasize that this is emphatically not the case. "Visitors are always most welcome," says Mr M. K. Nathani, the Government's tourist representative in London. "But we are opposed to mass tourism on a scale like Spain." He tactfully avoided mentioning parts of Kenya, where chartered holidaymakers are deposited at beach hotels, few of them with any apparent interest in Africa other than as a place to acquire a winter sun tan.

Suggestions that the people of Tanzania are anti-European and hostile to visitors are as absurd as the reports that the country is some kind of puppet Chinese state with Mao's soldiers peering out from under every thorn bush. Discourtesy and unfriendliness are, for one thing, totally out of keeping with the cheerful, happy-go-lucky East African character. Moreover, in all Africa it would be harder to find a country which has preached and practised greater tolerance or tried harder and more successfully to avoid sectarian antagonisms.

It is an astonishingly beautiful country. Comparisons with its neighbours may be invidious—Kenya, Zambia and, in happier times, Uganda—all have their own special attractions. But in some respects Tanzania is unmatched. The volcanic scenery of the northern region, dominated by the great white cone of Kilimanjaro, is extraordinary. The national parks are among the finest in the world, including Serengeti which contains the greatest concentration of wildlife in Africa. Without any doubt the greatest "safari" of all is the round trip from Arusha by way of Lake Manyara, the Ngorongoro crater, the Olduvai gorge and Serengeti. Four or five days are really needed to do the trip in comfort, as the roads are not good, although perfectly passable in an ordinary saloon car. There is a beautiful hotel at Lake Manyara, built on a hilltop with spectacular views over the lake and the intervening valley, which is a national park. Even more breathtaking is the view from the great picture windows of the hotel perched on the rim of Ngorongoro.

It is worth making a slight detour off the main road to visit the Olduvai gorge, where Dr Leakey made his famous discoveries which completely revolutionized all theories about the origins of mankind. There is not a great deal to see, apart from some rather curious rock formations, but the eerie silence of the place is spellbinding.

Tanzania offers more than 900 miles of clean white sandy beaches fringing the warm Indian Ocean. Most of the coast hotels are in the Dar es Salaam region, but recently some development has taken place on Mafia Island, where there is said to be excellent deep-sea fishing.

Zanzibar has not always had the easiest of relations with the rest of the country since the amalgamation soon after independence. At one time the authorities took a dim view of visitors, demanding all sorts of extra docu-

mentation and delays. However, we are now assured that travel to the "island of spices" is straightforward, uncomplicated and encouraged.

Dar itself has a mellow, relaxed charm, quite different from the Europeanized bustle of Nairobi. The grandest hotel is the Kilimanjaro, but it is often a good idea to eat away from the main hotels in some of the smaller restaurants. Africa is not renowned as a gourmet's paradise, but I have pleasant memories of dining on lobster and Chablis for several nights running and at a price only a fraction of what would be paid in Europe.

Although still a long way behind Kenya in numbers of visitors, tourism in Tanzania is making headway. Last year

foreign exchange earnings amounted to some 130m Tanzanian shillings (£8m), more than twice the figure four years earlier. A sore point has been the fact that most visitors arrive from Europe and America by way of Nairobi, which means that hotels, tour operators and travel agents in Kenya are the main beneficiaries.

To try to counter this, a new international airport was opened three years ago near Kilimanjaro. It has so far proved a disappointment, since the airlines have declined to switch their operations from the convenience of Nairobi to the relative wilderness of northern Tanzania.

Government officials admit that the infrastructure

One of the coast hotels at Dar es Salaam, where the holidaymaker can find a mellow, relaxed atmosphere that contrasts the Europeanized bustle of Nairobi.



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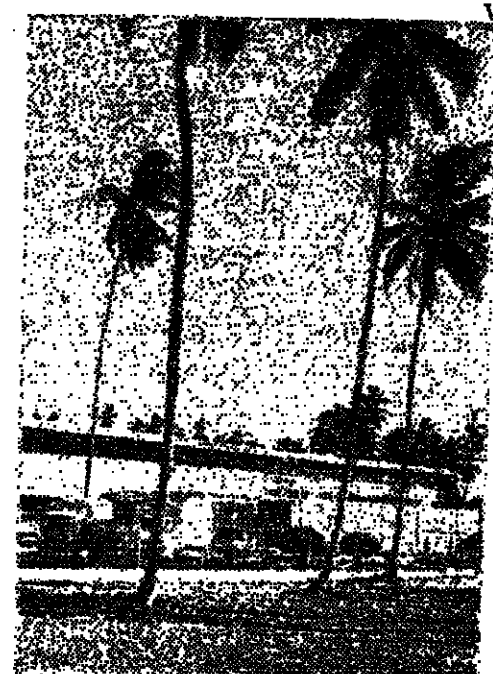
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1,000 men vote to stay out of Leyland crisis talks begin

R. W. Shakespeare, a British Leyland manager, began two days of talks yesterday with shop floor representatives at the financial crisis which led to government intervention, the company's relations problems, and are again causing massive losses, took another turn.

Meeting of the 1,000 strikers to support of the Leyland plant in Coventry, which they lost during the strike by control room at their plant.

Production is halted losses totalling nearly £100,000 over the last week, and another 100 workers in Coventry, Birmingham and Liverpool have been laid off.

After yesterday's meeting, shop stewards were facing a protracted dispute said that "comprehensive" of all plants would

Eddie McGarry, union co-ordinator at Rover-Triumph, said that the company had made no fresh move to the dispute in view of the startling moves over the end.

The stewards had taken a decision that must "sit back and wait for something", he said. British Leyland has rejected a claim for lay-off pay which it means about £44 a week such as because its men with the car unions "rule out these pay" when men are made idle strikes within their own

British Leyland faces yet a threat to production in its engines factories in Coventry, where the jobs of production workers are at risk of industrial action.

Import drivers working for dependent contractor. This meant that no completed cars can leave the plant and are being stockpiled.

A two-day meeting between management and shop floor representatives which began yesterday at the Austin-Morris plant at Longbridge, Birmingham provides the first opportunity for consultation since it was revealed last week that British Leyland's financial plight had forced it to go to the Government for help.

This will almost certainly result in some degree of state control. In Coventry, Chrysler still has a strike by skilled millwrights in its car assembly and engines plants. They are demanding increased overtime rates for weekend working, but so far their dispute is having little effect on production.

Malcolm Brown writes: In London last night Sir Don Ryder, the new Cabinet Adviser on Industry, estimated that it would take about three months to prepare a full report on British Leyland, although there would be earlier interim reports.

He has been asked by Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, to prepare the report to help determine the size of state investment in the group.

Sir Don spent the day clearing up his affairs at Reed International, of which he was chairman and chief executive. Today he will move into the Cabinet Office.

Lord Stokes, chairman of British Leyland, and Mr John Barber, the group's managing director, were involved in a series of internal meetings at the group's London headquarters during the day.

Following the visit of Mr Barber to Spain over the weekend in an effort to sort out the delay in selling its Spanish operation to General Motors in a £28m deal, British Leyland said concern had been conveyed to the Spanish Prime Minister.

Worker participation: A call for a form of worker participation to be introduced at British Leyland, if public money is injected into the company was made yesterday by nearly 100 Labour MPs, who signed a Commons motion which also urged that any financial support should also be on the basis of public participation.

VT board ready to act Meriden

Meriden Brown, chairman of the VT board, said the group would not go on with the £5m of its 1 blockaded.

Dennis Poore, chairman of VT, had already told Mr that the group hoped to a decision by Christmas.

Meriden plant being occupied by the plant effort to put pressure on the management and management to agree to their demands that the works remain open.

In action, which has led refusal to allow a motor cycles to be taken from the factory, has been into conflict with the BSA plant at Heath, Birmingham.

CAST and Selection Trust merge

By Our Mining Correspondent

Faced with the £120m financing of the Agnew nickel project in Western Australia, the boards of Selection Trust and Consolidated African Selection Trust have at last agreed to a merger.

Oldham Estates had £140,000 net loss

By Andrew Wilson

With accustomed brevity the accounts of Mr Harry Hyams's Oldham Estates, which controls the country's largest unquoted property group, fell last year from £1.15m to £127,000. And at the net level, there was a loss of £140,000. As usual, no dividend has been declared.

Significantly, despite the malaise in the property sector, Mr Hyams states that while there have been no revaluations since June, 1972, and the end of March this year, an evaluation would not differ significantly from the balance-sheet total of £80.2m. The accounts do not incorporate any rental income from Centre Point which now appears to be approximately half let.

Part of the fall in profits arises from higher interest charges—£2m greater at £5.5m—reflecting higher rates rather than heavier borrowings, which cost only £4m up at £5.5m. And £3.5m of these are long-term mortgages largely with the Co-operative Insurance Society at 6½ per cent.

Oldham Estates shares can be dealt in unofficially. The present price is around 30p compared with the 64p obtained by George Wimpey in April, 1972, when it sold the bulk of its Oldham holding for £32m.

The present share price values Mr Hyams's stake of 11.0 million of the 168 million shares in issue at £33m, compared with a peak of about treble this amount.

Twinlock offers £2.75m for office equipment group

By Our Financial Staff

Twinlock, the business equipment company, yesterday announced a takeover bid worth £2.75m for the Shannon business systems and office equipment group. An unusual feature of this deal is that it is being financed mainly with the shares of Twinlock, an unquoted public company.

Only last month the Shannon announced that talks with Twinlock had been broken off and that there was "no intention of merging the two companies".

Difficulties, however, have now been resolved. The bid values each Shannon ordinary share at 45p and yesterday the stock market value of the shares jumped 65 per cent to 38p.

The Investment Company, which controls the Shannon, has accepted Twinlock's offer in respect of the 58.7 per cent holding it has in Shannon's ordinary capital and of its 32.5 per cent stake in the preference capital, which is also being bid for.

Financial Editor, page 21

Dutch group acquires Triumph Insurance

By Our Financial Editor

Triumph Insurance, a subsidiary of the finance and investment group Triumph Investment Trust, where receivers were recently appointed, has been sold to a major Dutch insurance group.

Ennia NV, a life and general insurance group with worldwide premium income of more than £120m a year, has paid the receivers "a substantial consideration" for acquisition of Triumph Insurance, which is chiefly involved in fire and accident underwriting. Triumph Insurance's premium income was running at over £12m last year and pre-tax profits were £1m.

No further details of the purchase price were revealed yesterday, although the consideration is thought to have been in excess of £5m. It is understood that Mr Bill Henderson, the insurance group's present chairman and managing director, will continue in office.

Ennia, which already has an insurance offshoot in the United Kingdom—the New First Netherlands Insurance—has been anxious for some time to expand its activities in the British market, and the acquisition of Triumph Insurance is part of this policy.

At least one British insurance group has approached the receivers about the company in the past week.

Since Triumph Investment Trust went into receivership following the collapse of a support operation for its banking subsidiary G. I. Whyte, the group's metal trading and processing business, International Metals and Ores, has been sold to Billiton for £13.5m.

Offers are believed to have been received, too, for the group's unit trust management company and its overseas bank business. Last week it was announced that agreements in principle had been reached for the sale of the group's metal subsidiaries to private Dutch interests.

Trafalgar and insurers agree on liner loss

Trafalgar House Investments, the property, shipping and construction group, has agreed with its insurers that the Cunard Ambassador passenger liner, badly damaged by fire in September, should be treated as a constructive total loss. This was disclosed in the group's preliminary statement yesterday.

As a result the cash receipt from the insurers will exceed the value of the ship and the proceeds, together with Trafalgar's recent sale of its 40 per cent interest in Storm Drilling, the American company, are expected to be more than £25m.

Financial Editor, page 21

Oil funds help to bridge UK trade gap

By Tim Congdon

Surging import costs bring threat of fresh rise in food prices

By Mervyn Westlake

The cost of Britain's imported food has again begun to rise rapidly. This is certain to result in higher food prices in the shops within a few weeks.

Increasing world prices of several food items contributed substantially to a sharp jump in the basic material costs of manufacturing industry last month, according to figures released yesterday by the Department of Industry.

The official index monitoring basic material and fuel prices climbed by almost 2.2 per cent in November to 228.5 (1970=100). This follows a jump of 3.4 per cent in the index during the previous month.

The figures strongly suggest that the import cost problem has resumed a sharp upward trend after settling on a plateau since last spring. Higher fuel prices, because of the new Arab agreements with the oil companies, also contributed to the higher costs of industry.

But higher prices for sugar, tea and cereals (both imported and home-produced) had the largest impact on the index. Although imported vegetable oils, oilseeds and oilcake were costing less, they did not offset the higher prices for other foodstuffs.

In the past three months the cost of primary foodstuffs to the food manufacturing industry has risen more than 14½ per cent. Food materials have not followed the downward path set by many other commodities with the ending of the world boom.

Some other sectors of the economy have seen a considerable weakening in the upward trend of import prices over recent months.

Excluding the costs of fuel, food, drink and tobacco, the official index of material costs would have actually shown a slight decline in November.

Separate figures for completed manufactures leaving the factory showed a further marked increase in November, and the index of wholesale prices rose by 1½ per cent to 165.0 (1970=100).

These wholesale prices have

taken the official index back to around 112.0 compared with 111.6 in October (1971=100). In the last four months the average volume of sales has been just about the average level of the second half of last year.

Taking the first 11 months of the year together, the average volume was 1 per cent below the average level in the corresponding period of 1973. This weak level of spending reflects the way rising prices are biting into the consumers' spending power. It would appear that only the measures by Mr Denis Healey, the Chancellor, in his July mini-budget have prevented a real decline in the level of consumer spending.

In its latest forecast, the National Institute predicts a fall in consumers' expenditure of just under 0.5 per cent in 1975 compared with 1974.

WHOLESALE PRICES

The following are the indices (1970=100) of wholesale prices of manufactured goods and of basic materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry released by the Department of Industry. The figures are not seasonally adjusted, exclude purchase tax and value-added tax, but include revenue duties.

	Output prices (home sales)	Prices of materials and fuel
1973		
Q1	119.5	126.0
Q2	120.1	133.3
Q3	124.2	150.9
Q4	129.1	167.6
1974		
Q1	138.3	214.3
Q2	148.9	215.8
Q3	156.1	215.9
Q4	162.2	210.7
Jan	138.5	215.1
Feb	142.3	217.0
March	146.4	217.4
April	149.0	216.2
May	151.2	213.9
June	153.5	214.6
July	156.1	218.7
Aug	156.6	216.3
Sept	162.2	223.7
Oct p	165.0	228.5
Nov p		
D Provisional		

R-R shareholders to get further 15p payment

By Our Financial Staff

Shareholders of the Old R.R. Royce company will receive a further distribution of 15p a share on February 27, bringing the total distribution at that point up to 50p a share. This was announced at yesterday's annual meeting in London.

In addition, it is also possible that shareholders may receive a further distribution in the form of a dividend in the form of a 1975-76 month's report from the joint liquidators of the company indicated that eventual payments could total as much as 58p a share. But one of the problems towards the end of a liquidation is that the final

realizations and settlements can take a long time to achieve.

In an attempt to conclude matters as fast as possible for smaller shareholders, the liquidators are investigating the possibility of establishing a realizations company to hold the group's remaining trading investments and property assets.

Mr Rupert Nicholson, the receiver and one of the joint liquidators, told yesterday's meeting that he considered the view that the Government had paid too much for the aero-engine assets as an unfair one. He felt that the RB211 would prove a very good investment.

Financial Editor, page 21

Australia plans tariffs to ease import problem

Canberra, Dec 9.—Mr Gough Whitlam, the Prime Minister, announced a 1975 programme of tariff protection aimed at reducing import competition in certain industries.

He said in a statement that action would be based on a selective review of industries with import problems. These include motor vehicles, textiles, clothing and footwear, domestic appliances and electronics.

Goods ordered from overseas had not cleared for home consumption at the date of the announcement, and the action would be subject to the terms of the action.

Mr Frank Crean, the Federal Treasurer, has announced measures to relieve liquidity pressure on companies, by allowing them to defer payment of company tax due in 1975 until the end of April—

Reuter.

City jobbing firm will cease trading

Jobbers Berger and Gosschalk has announced that it is to cease trading on December 23, although the company is currently operating profitably. The directors reached the decision after a long and deep consideration to continuing adverse business conditions.

Akroyd & Smithers is to take on a number of personnel from Berger and Gosschalk to staff the property, oil and paper books which it is now to start. Berger's mining finance people are going to Stock and Lazarus.

Financial Editor, page 21

BPM HOLDINGS LTD

"OUR PAPERS ARE IN GOOD SHAPE"

THE POUND

The Times index: 63.65 -0.69
FT index: 161.5 -1.7

Rises

Falls

Microconcrete

while rubber prices eased. Copper fell 1½ and tin dropped £2.50. Zinc declined £2.75 while LME silver was 4.35p lower. Reuters index was 5.4 down at 1,210.0.

Commodities: London daily sugar price was raised £20 to £500 but futures lost between £5.25 and £15.50. Coffee gained 5p to £3

On other pages

Business appointments

Company Meeting Reports

Company Meeting Reports

BPM HOLDINGS LTD

FINANCIAL NEWS

Whitecroft in sight of further peak year, but growth rate is slower

By Tony May

Although growth rates have slowed since last year's impressive leap forward at Whitecroft, pre-tax profits for the first half are 48 per cent up at £17.3m, and the board considers that the full year's results will show an increase over last year's record £3.14m.

The interim advance has been achieved on turnover up from £14.3m to £18.5m. Net profits

have risen from £637,000 to £835,000, and shareholders will receive a dividend of 2.47p gross (1.65p net) against 2.2p (1.54p). Attributable earnings are £828,000, against £1.6m, but this reflects an extraordinary item included a year ago of £1m, which is not balanced this time.

Plans for growth, both organic and by acquisition, are being pursued by this Manchester-based group, whose activities

include textiles, building, building supplies, engineering and leather. Mr Ernest Gould, the chairman, says that further selective investments are planned in companies which are complementary to the present interests of the group, and stresses that adequate resources are available for the purpose. Also, additional cash flow should be significantly improved by the Chancellor's tax measures.

Wm Jacks hit by German end

Though its share of associates brought in £529,000 (against nil), making a pre-tax profit for the 18 months to June 30 of £326,000 (against £251,000 for 12 months), as foreshadowed by William Jacks & Co at midway, its German losses have brought the group into the red.

Turnover for the 18 months was £8.25m (against £6.98m for 12 months). After charging extraordinary items of a loss of £348,000 (terminal loss on German venture), and against a loss of £58,000, the group deficit comes to £582,000.

Jas Latham interim hopes dampened in sharp tumble

With first-quarter accounts to hand, together with sales figures for the first four months, shareholders of timber group James Latham were told in August, "so far, so good". But against the expectations of matching profits for the opening half to September 30, the result is a severe slump—more than halved—from £1.05m to £523,000 pre-tax on turnover slightly better—up from £9.37m to £9.47m. In response, the shares shed some 10p to close at 65p.

This half-time fall from expectations follows a similar experience for the preceding full year. Against hopes of some £2m pre-tax, the eventual outcome was a 31 per cent drop in the second-half, to finish with only a 12 per cent gain at £1.87m. Scant guidance is given on prospects for the remainder of the year, other than that stocks have been reduced by £1m since April 3 and forward contracts are now at a "very low" level.

Stock markets

Leading shares drift lower

Christmas came early to the Stock Exchange yesterday as the trading account spanning it began. Buyers were missing in the absence of anything cheerful in the weekend press and leaders drifted lower. Bargains marked on the London market totalled 5,302 against 4,214 on Friday and 4,869 a week ago, a chininess marked by an FT index which slipped 1.7 to 1615. The Times index was down a further 0.69 to 63.65, a new "low" point.

ICI, Glaxo and Tube Investments fell by between 2p and 7p with Tubes suffering from redundancy rumours. Metal Box slipped for the same reason and with the additional factor of short-time working in some factories, but BLMC held steady partly because the news of Mr Benn's intervention had already been discounted. In contrast Unilever rose on Amsterdam buying.

Other features included Guinness which went weaker ahead of result today, and James Latham and Hoveringham Gravel after disappointing trading news. Burton "A" dipped ahead of Thursday's annual profits with property sales clothing special losses concerning Peter Robinson rationalization, the Boulogne closure and miscellaneous re-organization costs. The gamble is whether the dividend will be maintained.

Sundry bright-spots were in evidence. Better than expected figures helped Trafalgar House and Shannon jumped 17p to 40p on the Twinlock merger terms. Hawthorn Leslie and Robb Caledon in shipbuilding moved ahead again on renewed compensation hopes.

Gilts had a poor day. Prices fell back through the day by successive 1/8 or 1/16 points. There was no specific cause of the selling, but concern about sterling was one talking point as the effective depreciation rate neared new highs. "Shorts" lost up to 1 point. Losses in "longs" also were generally of 1 point, with undated stocks 1 point lower.

Liquidity survey needs to cast wider

Corporate liquidity showed a marked decline from the final quarter of 1973, according to an article in this month's edition of *Economic Trends*.

The Department of Industry quarterly survey of company liquidity, which studies over 200 industrial and commercial groupings, reports that the usual fourth-quarter build-up of com-

pany liquidity in anticipation of the tax-gathering season did not occur last year.

In the first quarter of 1974, which included the period of the three-day week, net current assets were reduced by much more than the usual seasonal fall. In the second quarter there was a further decline in liquidity ratio, and net current

assets were lower than at any time since 1970, when the survey started.

The fall in June-quarter activity was concentrated in manufacturing companies. But the value of the survey is limited, as the companies included are not representative of industrial and commercial companies as a whole.

Rationalization policy brings leap in profit at Williams of Cardiff

The policy of eliminating unprofitable activities and reducing borrowings has had a marked effect on the results of John Williams of Cardiff, the steel stockholding group.

Profits for the 12 months to September 30 soared from £277,000 to £733,000, pre-tax on turnover expanded by more than £2m to £14.87m. Subject to formal consent, the group plans to raise its total distribution from 1.5p to 2.49p. Earnings were 7.16p (2.78p).

The company says that its policy meant a sharp reduction in the trading of the architectural products division where there was a trading loss. But this was more than compensated for by an expansion in the profitable businesses of service centres and the foundry division.

On prospects, the group says it intends to continue with its rationalization and is in a healthy state to weather the economic difficulties ahead. Taken half by half, the first six months saw profits leap from a low point of £31,000 to £246,000, while in the final leg the figure was almost doubled from £246,000 to £487,000.

to £5.5m. Earnings a share including non-recurring items moved up from 0.95p to 1.1 and the interim dividend raised from 0.4p to 0.5p, the board says that this not necessarily indicate a total for the full year. C books are generally satisfied.

Level pegging at Caffyns

Conditions in the retail industry were difficult Caffyns throughout the half, but by developing the vice and supplies aspects of business, the board has deduced a result close to achieved in 1973. Pre-tax profits are £334,500, against £36 on turnover up from £9.1 to £10.2m. Although net profit down from £175,000 to £16 the board is holding the interim at 2p, a rise from 1.5p to 2.1p.

Over the whole of last year the group's taxable profits down from a record £796,620,000, after turnover of £20.3m to £19.4m.

Good start by Ingra

Knitted garment Harold Ingra, who lists Home Stores among its mers, has made a good start in its current year and has increased its share market. Sales in the first six months of 1974 jumped by 56 per cent from £2.3 to £3.6m, while taxable profit by 22 per cent from £303,369,000. The interim dividend is raised from 1.25p to 1.5p. Forward order books are good and the chairman is confident of the group's ability to trade successfully.

Reed's Belgian proj

A new company styled form Belgium has been set up by the Reed International subsidiary Reed Building Pr and Tesselendo Chemie, a Belgian chemical manufacturer. It will be jointly owned operated from the E group's headquarters in sels. Celufarm products a lular plastic extrusions building and furniture tries and the new company market in northern Euro

Stonehill Holdings

Squeezed between frozen selling prices and the higher cost of raw materials, labour and overhead payments, Stonehill Holdings' interim profits have slipped from £526,000 to £381,000. Turnover eased from £3.9m to £3.8m.

Although net profits are down from £252,000 to £182,000, the interim is raised from 2p to 2.25p gross, and from 1.4p to 1.5p net.

The Price Commission has agreed an increase in prices from October 1, and the board expects turnover for the second half to be up 25 per cent on last year.

Permali up 47 per cent at half time

Permali, the Gloucester-based maker of electrical insulation and reinforced plastic products, looks well placed to achieve its sixth successive year of growth. At half time, to September 30, taxable profits jumped by 47 per cent from £260,000 to £382,000 on sales up from £4m

Latest dividends

Company	Dividend	Year	Pay date	Year's total
Allied Mfg (51) Fin	6.55	7.55	23/1	14.05
Bleek Holdings (10p)	14.05	14.05	28/12	14.05
Burkhardt Fin (51.5) Int	90.05	90.05	—	—
Caffyns (50p) Int	2.1	2.1	22/1	—
Dubilier (5p) Fin	0.63	0.85	31/12	1.68
H Bay Oil (52.5) Fin	50.05	35.05	29/1	95.05
H. Ingram (10p) Int	1.54	1.29	4/1	—
Wm. Jacks (25p) Int	2.0	2.0	—	—
Jas Latham (11) Int	3.72	2.67	21/1	—
MAM (10p) Fin	2.5	6.0	—	7.5
Permali (10p) Int	0.5	0.4	1/3	—
Alfred Preece (25p) Int	0.93	0.78	4/2	—
Stonehill Hldgs (25p) Int	2.25	2.0	7/4	—
Trafalgar House (25p) S Int	1.99	1.68	6/1	3.75
Walker Crossweller (25p) Int	1.49	1.43	31/1	—
Whitecroft (50p) Int	2.47	2.2	1/2	—
J. Williams Caff (25p) Fin	1.84	1.0	—	2.49

† Cents. * For 18 months.

Ashbourne is taking CGT to court

Having taken legal advice, Ashbourne Investments has started legal proceedings against Corporate Guarantee Trust, Mr S. Barry and Mr L. Casper, in connection with the purchase of Armour Trust shares.

The statement accompanies the annual report of Mr F. Suggett, the chairman, in which shareholders are told that increased liquidity and the consequent reduction in bank borrowings will mean lower interest rates. However, it would be hazardous to predict the outcome of the suits for the year. He says that the board will spare no effort to get the bid situation and the consequences of any ruling by the Takeover Panel resolved, and once again make the group profitable.

In November, the board reported that trading results of the industrial companies showed some improvement; the banking subsidiary had "weathered the storm".

De Wendel may block Denain bid

A fresh factor emerges in the takeover situation concerning Marine-Firminy in the shape of iron and steel group De Wendel. It confirmed yesterday that it had bought over 5 per cent of Marine's capital by market purchases during last week.

Schneider Group has already reconsidered its willingness to cede its 32 per cent holding in Marine to Denain-Nord-est-Longwy. Schneider's objection was that Denain's bid for Marine contravened the takeover regulations.

The De Wendel purchases have had the effect of raising Marine shares' price to the detriment of Denain's bid. For its part, De Wendel would not comment other than to say its purchases are not designed to favour a Denain takeover.

Marine, apart from owning 50 per cent of Marine Schneider SA, its joint subsidiary with the Schneider Group

MPI Ltd has sold Selmer to Norlin Music £300,000, and the repay MPI of loans amount £425,000. At December the value of the assets was £292,000.

The retail business in Cross Road, London, Musical Instruments, retained by MPI and its ceeds of the sale will mainly to reduce bor

Stag Line optimist Last year was the successful in Stag Line's with pretax profits from £287,000 to £1m, D. M. Robinson, chairman the forward fixtures group's fleet of four dt bulk carriers indicate satisfactory year

During the year the investigated possible position in North Sea i gas. But so far they identified any "orientated" activity

Margins still harass Walker, Crossweller

Finding no relief from the pressure on margins, Walker, Crossweller & Co, engineers and manufacturers, declined from

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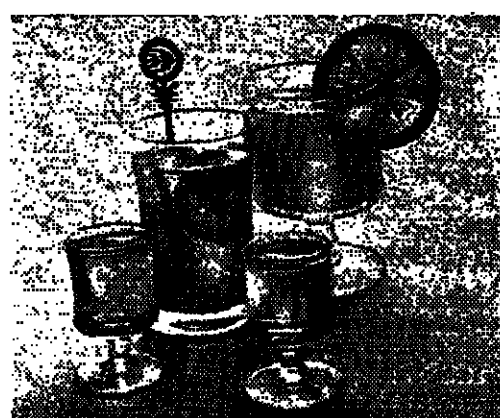
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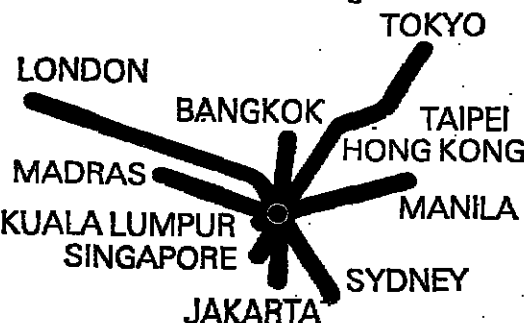
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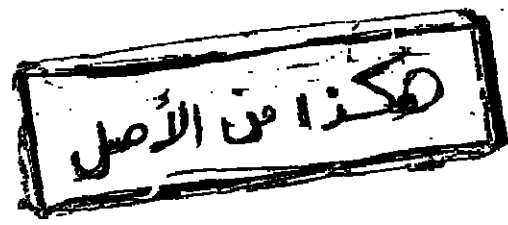
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FINANCIAL NEWS

I AM cuts dividend to help liquidity

Cut in total dividend of 19 pence per share, to conserve cash resources, and a 19 per cent drop in profits are announced at Management by Tom Jones and Engel-Humperdinck have a sizeable profit. The profit fall is attributed to a substantial drop in the price of quoted securities. On the full time figures, the dividend cut the market stood up well at around 100 but the downturn has been fully discounted by the high point this year.

Mr P. Hambro, chairman, looks forward to a satisfactory conclusion to the company's Manchester development.

Relocation costs hit Dubilier

The cost of closing the Action site and relocating production at the group's two factories at Dubilier has proved heavy for the electric and electronic components group. The factory removal costs totalled over £1m and there was a loss by a subsidiary during and following the reorganization of £87,000 and there was a net loss on the sale of the industrial power capacitor division of £141,000.

Allowing for an estimated claim for government grants and deducting the losses, etc., from the £2.3m from the surplus on the sale of the Action factory leaves just over £1m to be placed to reserve.

Sales in the period were £7.3m (against £4.4m for the 12 months) and taxable profits were £413,000 (against £506,000). The final dividend is 0.63p against 0.85p making a total of 1.68p for the 18 months against 1p for the year.

Reservations on S report

Several reservations on the annual report of the Bridge Securities

Mining

Your shortage Rand

le Blyvooruitzicht Gold Company has declared a dividend increase in line with market expectations at 50c (35c), the dividend from the other two Rand mines come as a disappointment. Durban Deep has paid its final at the same level at 50c, but this year the interim leaving 50c for the year up from 30c.

an has been forced into a position by the need to conserve resources to finance its expenditure programme the reduction in output of the shortage of under-

Rustenburg lifts output estimate

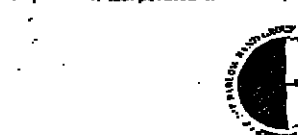
Rustenburg Platinum, the world's largest producer, has raised its estimate of production by 1976 from 1.52m oz to 1.63m oz. But, thanks to greater efficiency and better metallurgical processes, capital expenditure is likely to be contained to the original estimate of R37m.

Reviewing last year's results when net profits leapt from R37.5m to R56.9m, the directors state that the volume of sales was substantially higher. Deliveries of platinum and palladium to Ford made a significant contribution.

As to the present year, it is believed that the recent downturn in demand for platinum by the Japanese jewelry industry will stabilize. Sales to American and European industrial users have remained firm so far, but that for catalytic converters is likely to be below earlier estimates. Overall it is not possible to be precise about the outlook for platinum sales.

Rand Mines, Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)



DIVIDEND DECLARATIONS
It is hereby declared that dividends have been declared payable to shareholders registered in the books of the company at the offices of the Registrar of Companies, Johannesburg, on 24th December, 1974, and to persons presenting the warrants detached from bearer share warrants. The dividends on warrants to bearer will be paid in terms of a notice to be published by the Secretary of the Company in the United Kingdom.

Dividends are declared in South African currency and the rate of exchange at which the dividends will be converted into United Kingdom currency for payment of dividends from the office of the company's United Kingdom Registrar and Transfer Agents will be the telegraphic transfer rate between Johannesburg and London ruling on the first business day after 24th December, 1974 on which foreign currency dealings are made.

On or about 3rd February, 1975, warrants will be despatched by the share Registrar to shareholders at addresses in Africa south of the equator and to the offices of the company's United Kingdom Registrar and Transfer Agents elsewhere. Unless instructions which will authorize an agent to receive the dividends on behalf of the shareholder are received by the Registrar, the dividends will be paid to the shareholder or to the person named in the instructions. If no instructions are received, the dividends will be paid to the shareholder or to the person named in the instructions. If no instructions are received, the dividends will be paid to the shareholder or to the person named in the instructions.

One of the South African Income Tax Act No. 58 of 1962 (as amended), which provides for the payment of dividends to shareholders whose addresses appear in the books of the company as being outside the Republic of South Africa, on which the books are closed for purposes of the dividends.

Register of members of each company will be closed from 25th December, 1974 to 2nd January, 1975 both days inclusive.

Company	Dividend	Coupon	Amount per share
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)	Number	Number	South African Currency cents
Blyvooruitzicht Gold Mining Company, Limited	58	—	50
Durban Deep Proprietary Mines, Limited	108	108	50
Rustenburg Platinum Mines, Limited	110	111	40

The Rustenburg Deep, Limited, need to raise funds for essential capital expenditure and a decrease in the underground labour force have led to a reduction in output.

Rustenburg Platinum Mines, Limited, have effected a production of the labour problems at the mine and a reduction in profit in the last quarter of 1974, have necessitated a reduction in dividend.

South Exploration Company, Limited, need to raise funds for essential capital expenditure and a decrease in the underground labour force have led to a reduction in output.

Consolidated Limited, need to raise funds for essential capital expenditure and a decrease in the underground labour force have led to a reduction in output.

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PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENT

RAILWAYS (NO. 21)
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and
AVON AREA HEALTH AUTHORITY (Bristol Health District) (Teaching)

ROTATIONAL APPOINTMENT FOR PATROLOGY AND SENIOR HOUSE OFFICER TO THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited from qualified and experienced officers for appointment in a new rotational post in the Accident and Emergency Department of the Bristol Royal Infirmary. The post is a rotational post and the successful candidate will be required to work in the Accident and Emergency Department of the Bristol Royal Infirmary.

Applications should be sent to the Director of the Accident and Emergency Department, Bristol Royal Infirmary, Bristol, BS2 8DQ. Closing date 15th January 1975.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS
University College Cardiff
DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY

APPLY FOR THE FOLLOWING POSTS: POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT to work on the biological treatment of industrial effluents; and a research fellow to work on the biological treatment of industrial effluents.

Applications should be sent to the Director of the Department of Microbiology, University College Cardiff, Cardiff, CF1 1TA. Closing date 15th January 1975.

THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST
LECTURESHIPS IN SOCIOLOGY

Applications are invited for three lectureships in the Department of Sociology. The successful candidate will be required to teach and supervise students in the Department of Sociology.

Applications should be sent to the Director of the Department of Sociology, The Queen's University of Belfast, Belfast, BT7 1NN. Closing date 15th January 1975.

UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES-TRINIDAD
Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the Department of Chemistry. The successful candidate will be required to teach and supervise students in the Department of Chemistry.

Applications should be sent to the Director of the Department of Chemistry, University of the West Indies, Trinidad, TR15 1JF. Closing date 15th January 1975.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING
LABOUR RELATIONS

Consequent upon retirement, applications are invited for the post of Labour Relations Secretary.

The selected candidate will head up a team of specialist staff, based on Headquarters and Area Offices, which provide the members of this college with a comprehensive service of advice, representation and protection in all aspects arising from their employment as nurses. The Labour Relations Secretary is one of the Chief Officers of the College and is involved in the formulation and interpretation of organisational policies and in overall planning.

It is essential that candidates have experience in depth of Labour relations work, the ability to negotiate with employers at all levels, the qualities of leadership and a capacity for innovation. A qualification in Law is desirable and a knowledge of the Health Service would be an asset.

New Zealand Government STATE SERVICES COMMISSION

Vacancies exist in the Operations Branch of the New Zealand Government's Computer Services Division for the following:

Vacancy PT141/6918 **COMPUTER OPERATIONS MANAGER**

Salaries up to \$NZ9147

Vacancy PT141/6920 **SHIFT SUPERVISORS**

Salaries up to \$NZ8101

Vacancy PT141/6921 **SENIOR COMPUTER OPERATORS**

Salaries up to \$NZ7348

Vacancy PT141/6922 **COMPUTER OPERATORS**

Salaries up to \$NZ6385

Vacancy PT141/6919 **DATA PREPARATION MANAGERS**

Salaries up to \$NZ8625

The Computer Services Division is responsible for all Electronic Data Processing Applications in the New Zealand Public Service. The positions are located in Wellington or Wanganui, in the North Island of New Zealand.

E.D.P. EQUIPMENT

The equipment being used includes an I.B.M. 370/145, and I.C.L. 1904S and a Burroughs B4700. Terminal operations are currently being carried out on all machines with substantial increases in Terminal facilities being planned. Appropriate operational experience is desired although applicants with experience on other equipment will be considered.

DATA PREPARATION EQUIPMENT

Data Preparation is handled on Intorex Key-to-Disk and M.D.S. Key-to-Tape Systems. Installation of C.D.C. OCR equipment is scheduled for early 1975. Experience in setting up and controlling Key-to-Disk and/or OCT installation is required.

PASSAGES

Fares for appointee and his wife and family will be paid.

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES

Up to \$NZ120 for a single man and \$NZ800 for a married man can be claimed to cover the cost of taking personal effects to New Zealand. Application forms and further information may be obtained from the New Zealand High Commission, New Zealand House, Haymarket, London SW1Y 4TO. When enquiring please quote the number of the vacancy in which you are interested.

THE FOOD AND DRINK INDUSTRIES COUNCIL

has two senior vacancies in its offices near Victoria

(1) EXECUTIVE

Duties will include the servicing of one or more high-level Working Parties; the preparation of material for submission to Ministers and Government Departments and to the twenty leading Trade Associations which are members of the Council; attendance at meetings, possibly occasionally in Brussels; and liaison with all sectors of the food and drink industries. Experience within either industry and evidence of skill in report writing with some administrative ability would be valuable qualifications. Age 28 to 40. Salary negotiable, minimum £4,000.

(2) COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Responsible, under the direction of the Secretary General, for communicating the policies of the Council by arranging and maintaining contacts with Ministers, Government Departments, Members of Parliament and other influential bodies; for keeping the media informed of the activities of the Council; for recommending Public Relations policies; for servicing the Communications Working Parties which act for the Council in these areas; and for other duties. Experience within either industry of Public Relations work would be a useful qualification. Age 32 to 45. Salary negotiable, minimum £4,500. Write in confidence to:-

The Secretary General

FOOD AND DRINK INDUSTRIES COUNCIL

1/2 Castle Lane, London SW1

Investigating Officers

The Commission for Local Administration in England considers and investigates complaints of maladministration by Local Authorities, Water Authorities and Police Authorities. The three Commissioners need staff to investigate complaints and prepare reports on them. Willingness to travel is essential.

Successful applicants will have a wide variety of backgrounds—within local government and outside—but will all be keen to ensure success for a new public service. Key abilities are to communicate effectively and sympathetically with all manner of people, to remember the detail but see quickly to the heart of the matter and to write reports which will constantly impress as clear, simple, but complete.

We want to choose the best from the widest field. Starting salaries will be between £3885 and £6538 a year. Local government terms and conditions will apply. If you can point to education and experience which makes you likely for the short list, please write not later than 30th December to:

Michael Hyde, Secretary
Commission for Local Administration
47 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2NB.

Commission for Local Administration-England

ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING

LABOUR RELATIONS

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It is essential that candidates have experience in depth of Labour relations work, the ability to negotiate with employers at all levels, the qualities of leadership and a capacity for innovation. A qualification in Law is desirable and a knowledge of the Health Service would be an asset.

Based in London, this post offers excellent conditions and basic salary, within the scale £5,000-£8,106 + £410 per annum London weighting. Additionally threshold payments of £228.80 per annum currently apply.

Further details and an application form can be obtained from: The Personnel Officer, R.C.N. Headquarters, London W1M 0AB.

POST OF

PRINCIPAL CLINICAL

PSYCHOLOGIST

The Highland Health Board invite applications for a post of Principal Clinical Psychologist in the Mental Health Services. The successful applicant will be based at Inverness and will be associated with the clinical services in general psychiatry, mental deficiency and child psychiatry at hospitals and clinics throughout the area.

The salary scale is £3,969 to £5,175 per annum.

Further particulars and forms of application are obtainable from the

Personnel Officer,

HIGHLAND HEALTH BOARD,

Ross House,

17 Old Edinburgh Road, Inverness.

to whom applications should be submitted by

10th January 1975.

PLA chief replies to criticism on charges

By Peter Hill

Complaints against Port of London Authority proposals to raise certain charges by 20 per cent from the beginning of next year, made in a letter circulated by the British Shippers' Council, have been attacked by Mr John Lunn, the PLA's director-general.

Mr Lunn said yesterday that he "regretted" the council's action in circulating the complaints and accused the organization of a lack of consultation — "the very thing about which they are complaining".

The proposals for increased charges, he said, were notified to the PLA Port Users' Consultative Committee — to which the Shippers' Council also belongs — on November 28. At the same time a general announcement had been made to ensure the widest numbers of port users were informed.

Timing of the committee meeting, he continued, gave its members two and a half weeks for discussion among its own members and to make representations to the PLA, which would be considered along with the proposed increases in charges by the PLA board next week.

"It is remarkable that faced with current inflationary trends we are able to give as much as four weeks' notice of proposed price increases," he said.

The P.U.C. was established eight years ago on PLA initiative, and it is a source of personal regret that we are now being criticized against the standards we set for ourselves, rather than standards which apply generally in British industry.

Nevertheless, Mr Lunn said, he hoped the Shippers' Council would continue as a member of the P.U.C. since he believed its withdrawal would not be in the best interests of either organization.

Cammell Laird aims to meet the demand for oil products carriers

By R. W. Shakespeare

Basic changes in the techniques of moving oil and oil products, which are certain to gather momentum over the next few years, were described in a conference of industrialists from the shipping and oil industries at Chester yesterday.

The 100 delegates were told that the emphasis would be increasingly on the shipment of finished petroleum products by Cammell Laird, the Merseyside shipyard, despite its current labour relations problems, is taking an optimistic view of its own potential to meet the demand for the new vessels needed to meet the changing needs of shippers.

Mr J. G. Day, Cammell's chief executive and managing director, told the conference that radical changes had become essential for survival because

the company's results and prospects had deteriorated to "crisis point" in the later 1960s and into 1971.

He added: "It is not by accident that Cammell Laird is today in the business of designing and building products tankers."

"Starting late in 1971, a careful review of commodities movements, world trade trends and an assessment of our internal strengths and weaknesses was undertaken. In our view at that time there were a number of possibilities for shipbuilders generally, but for Cammell Laird really only one: the building of a range of standard products tankers."

Mr P. D. Pound, commercial manager of Cammell Laird, said: "The expense of the product carrier trade is expected to change considerably during the next decade. This will be

caused partly by a continued increase in the demand for product carriers, but principally by the building of refineries in or closer to the oil-producing countries.

"This latter development will mean that a significant quantity of oil will have to be carried, not in its crude state but in its product forms."

Mr M. W. Latham, director of Common Brothers Management Services, which was responsible for the worldwide survey, said: "A primary reason for the forecast growth in products traffic throughout this decade and beyond is the limitation on expansion of refinery capacity in the consuming areas on environmental grounds, reinforced by opposition to further extensive interferences with channels and related waterflows to accommodate even larger scale crude imports."

Herr Gerling expects to meet sale deadline

Herr Hans Gerling, owner of the Gerling insurance group, said he was negotiating to sell 51 per cent of the group's share capital to a broad grouping comprising the Zurich Versicherungs-Gesellschaft, German industrial companies and, if possible, German banks.

Talks with these potential partners were well advanced and a final agreement should be reached by tomorrow, the deadline set by the Herstatt settlement judge for payments into the creditors' fund, he said in Cologne yesterday.

Workers' co-op awaits factory lease

A government-backed workers' cooperative at the Kirby, Liverpool, factory of I.P.D. Industrial, has entered into a conditional contract to take over the works. A High Court judge was told yesterday.

Mr Justice Megarry, who ordered the compulsory winding-up of the company on a petition by Rockwell Glass, judgment creditors for £40,042, was told that the workers' contract with I.P.D. as receiver and manager was subject to the landlord's consent to assign the lease of the works.

New money shop

A money shop was opened yesterday in the City, managed and staffed exclusively by women. It is the fourteenth money shop (the fifth this year) to be opened by Western Trust & Savings.

Bahrain buys TriStars

Gulf Air announced in Bahrain that it had signed a contract with Lockheed of the United States to buy two extended-range TriStar aircraft in 1976. Arrangements are being made for two more to be delivered later, it added. Gulf Air is owned by Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

U.S. Chrysler restart

Chrysler Corporation is to resume partial production of Plymouth Valiant and Dodge Dart at its assembly plant in Newark, Delaware, on January 6. About 1,500 of the unit's 3,200 workers, who were laid off at the plant in mid-November, will return to work on the start-up date, it added.

Krugerrand record

Sales of South African Krugerrands reached a record level in November as the bullion price soared. A total of 62,000 coins was sold compared with 398,175 in October, according to figures issued by the chamber of mines.

Worker-directors study

A Green Paper containing European Commission proposals for worker participation in running companies is expected early next year. Mr Jack Peel, head of industrial relations in the commission's social affairs department, said in Bradford

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Export Credit Guarantee Department's performance

From Mr C. G. Whitehead
Sir, Recently your Journal, and your competitors, have been carrying advertisements for the Export Credits Guarantee Department. However, despite their great value to exporters and their many claims to efficiency, I would suggest that they lose this country many potential orders through great delays experienced when applications are made by exporters for "cover" against new "names". I would suggest that my company's experience can be duplicated many times and I would instance three examples.

Some nine months ago I was negotiating with a potential buyer who had always shown preference for German manufactures. Some eight weeks after my initial approach for "cover" on this account I was advised that they were only "good" for payment by Confirmed and Irrevocable L/Cs.

Knowing the owners personally I protested vigorously to the Department and one week later I was advised that they would give me "cover" on trade to a maximum of £5,000 on D/A terms. Again I protested, stating that this sum was quite ridiculous in view of the size of the order and the quality of the company concerned. Some 10 days later I received full "cover" to the figure required on D/A terms. Thus it took almost 12 weeks to obtain suitable "cover".

This, Sir, was an order which could well have been lost to German competition and was

only maintained through my personal relations with the buyers.

The other two examples relate to enquiries for "cover" being made in August and September respectively. In both cases the Department has still to give a response, whether it be positive or negative, despite twice-weekly telephone enquiries. Indeed, one buyer whose patience has been strained to the utmost by this delay has (and by I mean Great Britain) am not interested in his business, he will place with competition from France. I am helpless to accept because I am unable to trade without ECGD "cover". Against the application made in September all I continually receive from the Department is that "our investigations have still not been completed".

I would suggest that it is more than likely that both these latter orders will be lost and their loss will be attributed solely to the interminable delays caused through endeavouring to obtain ECGD "cover". I would not in any way decry the very great value ECGD "cover" gives to exporters, particularly small ones such as myself, nevertheless if these losses are duplicated, as I imagine they are, many times, the overall loss to this country must be very substantial indeed.

Yours truly,
C. G. WHITEHEAD,
2 Garden Close,
Barnard, Surrey.

Unions and final salary pension schemes

From Mr M. J. White
Sir, The Cragge-by-the-F must be a long way from real world! Is Mr P. J. S. Br (Letters, December 3) unaware that "final salary" pension schemes are avidly sought by their members by trade unionists?

In the case of manual workers a "final pensionable salary" based on the average of earnings in the best three consecutive years in the last 10 years of service takes care of Brooks's worry.

Furthermore, trade unionists often protect the wage rate long serving employees who are obliged by age or failing health to accept less demanding in the closing years of their life. Some "final salary" schemes have such prote built in.

In a good scheme the "salary" formula is more a tenuous in the calculation early retirement, particularly on incapacity prospective is a reckonable for purposes—nothing in this is perfect: I am a member of a "final salary" scheme of course my senior and entitled to pensions greater my own.

But when I consider the surpluses to which they are so they are welcome to any retirement pension prospects, matters is that (assuming) does not sweep us all my colleagues and I will b to maintain in retirement, dard of living reasonably to that prior to retirement.

I have no dependants may die before I reach payable age. Does Mr Brooks think because my employer is a condition of service contribute to the scheme, that this is a hidden injustice? As far as I know the pound sterling negotiable in the other and my colleagues are w to any advantage that accrue to them by my pre departure—if the Treasurer not get there first!

Is Mr Brooks serious gesting that "money part or average salary" have tages over "final salary" schemes? They in no way the need of keeping p entitlements abreast with tion in pre-retirement years.

Yours faithfully,
MYLES J. WHITE,
Principal assistant,
Pensions & Social Service
General & Municipal W Union,
Thorne House, Ruxley R Claygate, Esher, Surrey.

Safeguarding holidaymakers' cash

From Mr R. A. Pycroft
Sir, The comments of Mr Neville Roberts (Letters, December 2) about plans to safeguard holidaymakers' moneys should be welcomed by all responsible people in the travel industry: in particular, his preference for a trust account system.

I cannot resist pointing out to Mr Roberts that Jetset, which has announced a programme of over one thousand transatlantic advance booking charter flights during 1975, has introduced such a scheme and is so far the only British travel company to have supported the system outright, let alone taken steps to implement it.

Money paid for flights departing after April, 1975, is being held intact in a guarantee trust account by the National Westminster Bank, under the terms of a Deed of Covenant lodged with the Civil Aviation Authority. It will be released to Jetset, the travel organizer, and to the applicable airline only upon completion of the passengers' return flights.

Like Mr Roberts, we believe that only this method ensures total financial protection. He also draws the conclusion that such schemes would slow the growth within travel companies and that this may not be such a bad thing. Again, I completely concur and have already pointed out to our friends in the travel industry that trust accounts are only practicable for financially stable companies with adequate resources. Universally, lead to a further weeding out in the travel industry and ensure that only companies with a sound financial base are able to engage in major travel operations.

Yours faithfully,
R. A. PYCROFT,
Managing Director,
Jetset Ltd,
Norfolk House,
Masters Road,
Horley, Surrey.

Scrap men renew pressure for removal of export curbs

By Business News Staff

Britain's scrap industry will renew pressure on the Government this week to lift existing controls on exports of ferrous scrap.

For several months scrap suppliers have been expecting a formal announcement that restrictions would be lifted in line with Britain's obligations under the Paris Treaty to move towards free trade in scrap with the rest of the EEC by January.

Through the British Scrap Federation, they have been pressing Whitehall officials and ministers to clarify the situation—but so far without success. The indecision was strongly attacked on Sunday by Mr Roy Boast, the federation's executive vice-president, who described it as "unfavourable and very unreasonable".

He continued: "We cannot afford this uncertainty. It is causing a tremendous amount of harm."

Three months ago the Department of Industry announced that the restrictions would be maintained until at least the year end. This came as a surprise.

The BSS emphasizes that neither the British Steel Corporation, private sector steel-makers in the United Kingdom nor Community officials in Brussels see any reason for the transitional period being extended.

Mr Boast said: "They have told us nothing nor given any indication of the factors which are being considered. If the Government are going to mess about with every industry as they have with us, then heaven help us."

Wage rises under social contract 'more than 24pc'

A new study of wage rises under the social contract shows settlements averaging more than 24 per cent.

Dr Paul Neild, of City stockbrokers Phillips and Drew, gives a warning in his study published yesterday that if it becomes the norm it will stimulate inflation, making Britain's problems even more severe.

Dr Neild, who has researched every major settlement since the Phase Three pay code ended on July 1, says: "Under the social compact the weighted average wage settlement so far has been about 24.5 per cent, covering 3.4 million workers or 14 per cent of the labour force. Writing in the Phillips and Drew December Market Review he says the central problem for

the labour force is to accept a voluntary cut in living standards which the rise in nationalized industry prices implies.

But because the social contract allows living standards to be maintained, "it is in direct confrontation with Government economic necessity". He says the Budget was aimed at giving the social contract every chance of working by holding back pent-up inflation.

But he adds that after the winter wage round, some part of the high wage settlements will be officially taxed away by the relaxing of price curbs. Dr Neild also predicts the immediate introduction of oil import controls next year. He adds that if this becomes commonplace among oil-consuming countries, oil prices may drop in the next two or three years. Leading article, page 15

Computer news

SPL forms control systems division

SPL International, the Simon group's software organization, has set up a control systems division as part of its planned move into hardware and total systems activities.

Based in Manchester, this division incorporates the recently acquired controls group of Simon Controls and Instrumentation. For SPL, it provides a new source of electronic and electrical engineering skills and hardware development facilities; these are becoming increasingly relevant in turnkey projects and on non-standard systems.

The new division will develop standard products particularly in the fields of production and process control. It has inherited from the Simon controls group a production monitoring system known as Simscan; a computer-based version of this will be developed and marketed by SPL.

Mr Ken Barnes, managing director of SPL, sees this move towards total systems as an

important element of the company's development.

Another element in the company's planning is to supplement its existing European operations, which are based mainly on wholly owned subsidiaries, with further links with indigenous European companies.

SPL is talking at present with two companies on the continent, in one case on the subject of a possible acquisition and in the other on the formation of a joint company. Over the next few years, Mr Barnes forecasts, SPL will develop more as a multi-national company.

Post Office system

In developing computer-controlled telephone exchanges of the future, the Post Office is using a large IBM System 370 Model 168 computer at its Harlow computer centre. This is handling the many very large simulations that are required in moving from the mixture of equipment that is today's telecommunications network to the proposed "System X" of the 1990s.

High power and large memory storage were needed for this work, plus a substantial multi-access performance to cope with many other interactive applications for

Post Office scientists and engineers.

The £2.5m system was delivered in April and May this year and began operating in June. Its use is being built up over 18 months; eventually it will take over from five other computers — two Burroughs 5500s, two Elliott 503s, and an Elliott 803B.

The new system will also take on the heavy load of interactive computing for which up to now, the Post Office has depended on outside time-sharing bureaux. The corporation has been spending about £500,000 on this outside work recently.

IBM closes bureaux

IBM batch-processing bureaux in London (Newman Street), Bristol, Newcastle, Nottingham, and Glasgow are to be closed and their work transferred to large teleprocessing centres in Croydon, Birmingham and Manchester.

Honeywell prices up

Honeywell has announced price increases for its Series 60 computers, caused by "continuously escalating costs". General effect on complete systems range from five to 10 per cent on rental, and from six to 10 per cent on purchase.

Kenneth Owen

Business appointments

New director at Head Wrightson

Professor P. A. Young has joined the board of Head Wrightson.

Mr R. J. Silver has become a director of Johnson and Barnes.

Mr G. S. Laughton has resigned as chairman and as a director of Laughton and Sons. Mr H. A. J. Laughton replaces him.

Mr S. Kennedy retires on December 31 as chairman of Church and Co. He is succeeded by Mr Ian B. Church. Mr J. Johnston becomes chairman of A. Jones and Sons, Joseph Cheaney and Sons, and of Church's English Shoes (Canada) and its subsidiaries. Mr J. G. Church is appointed deputy managing director of Church & Co. and chairman of Church-Allen, the Cazaam Corporation and its American subsidiaries and Church's English Shoes SA, Brussels.

Mr R. S. Edwards has resigned from the board of Sims Darby Holdings.

As a result of his appointment as Attorney General of the Isle of Man, Mr J. W. Corbett has resigned as a director of Isle of Man Enterprises.

Mr Michael W. Dodson has become finance director of Lonsdale Universal Stores (London) (Archers) and Mr R. Halleney, Mr B. Smith and Mr C. Sykes become sales director, commercial director and finance director respectively at Universal Stationers (Midland).

Consumer price index lowered after US error

Washington, Dec 9.—Lower figures for the Labour Department's consumer price index covering the months of April through to October are expected later this month. These revisions will correct an error in computation, showing smaller pay increases for workers whose wages are linked to the indicator.

Mr Julius Shiskin, Statistics Commissioner, said the corrections would indicate lower price increases for the index of 0.1 to 0.3 per cent in the months affected.

For example, he said that the initially reported 0.9 per cent increase in the overall index for October would probably be lowered to a 0.7 per cent rise on September, to a level of 152.9 per cent of the 1967 average from 153.2 per cent.

It is estimated that a 0.3 per cent rise in the index represents a one-cent-an-hour increase in pay, wages, benefits and costs.

£45m Air France loss

Air France, the state-run airline, expects to report a loss of 500m francs (£45.5m) this year, up from previous estimates of a loss of 375m francs, newly appointed director-general M. Gilbert Perol said in Paris yesterday.

CEDAR INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED



(Chairman: The Rt. Hon. Lord Blackford, D.F.C.)
The following are salient points from the Report and Accounts of the Company for the year to 30th September, 1974.

Total dividends for the year amounted to 1.7p per share as against 1.4p in the previous year.

Total assets less current liabilities were £15,513,692 compared with £28,313,167.

Asset value per share was 40p compared with 77p, including the investment currency premium in full of 47 per cent (234 per cent).

Total revenue for the year was £1,379,823, an increase of £300,196 or 27.8% over last year. The rise in income has enabled our Directors to increase the total dividend by 21.4%, thus matching the rate of inflation. The continuance of controls on margins and prices, the low level of liquidity in industry and the statutory limitation on dividend increases will prevent any substantial rise in income from investments. At the same time income from deposit interest may not reach the high levels of the year under review. Thus whilst it is difficult to forecast the results for the coming year shareholders should realise that our income and consequently the amount available for dividend is unlikely to match the growing rate of inflation.

PROGRESS DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS

Year to 30th Sept.	Total Revenue	Ordinary Dividend	Total Assets less Current Liabilities	Net Asset Value of Ordinary Shares
1965	£4,659	1.37 (gross)	8,871,012	361
1969	465,087	1.62 (gross)	12,814,653	58
1973	1,079,627	1.40*	28,313,167	771
1974	1,379,823	1.70*	15,513,692	40

*Net of imputed tax.

Copies of the Report and Accounts can be obtained from the Secretary, at 3 London Wall Buildings, London EC2M 5PH.



BEARER DEPOSITARY RECEIPTS

Following the DIVIDEND DECLARATION by the Company on 10 October 1974, NOTICE is now given that the following DISTRIBUTION will become payable to Authorised Depositaries on or after 12 December 1974, against presentation to the Depositary (as below) of Claim Forms (obtainable from the Depositary) listing Bearer Depositary Receipts.

Gross Distribution per Unit	4.00 cents
Less 15% U.S. Withholding Tax	0.60 cents
	3.40 cents per Unit.
	£0.014576 per Unit.

Converted at £2.331

DEPOSITARY: National Westminster Bank Limited, STOCK OFFICE SERVICES, (2nd Floor), 41 LOTHBURY, LONDON, EC2P 2BP 9 December 1974.

هكذا من الأصل

The William Boulton Group

Manufacturers of plant and equipment for the ceramic, process and chemical industries ferrous and non-ferrous foundries and heavy service engineers.

Another year of profitable progress

Salient points from the circulated statement of the Chairman, Mr. Denis Fahy.

- Group Profits, before charging interest, depreciation and taxation were the highest for the tenth year in succession and at £1,249,290 show an increase of 29% over the previous year.
- Group Turnover for the year of £13,446,145 was again at a record level compared with £10,945,338 in the previous year.
- With order books at a healthy level and with a high level of activity in all our Operating Companies, we can face whatever difficulties the future may hold with confidence and determination.

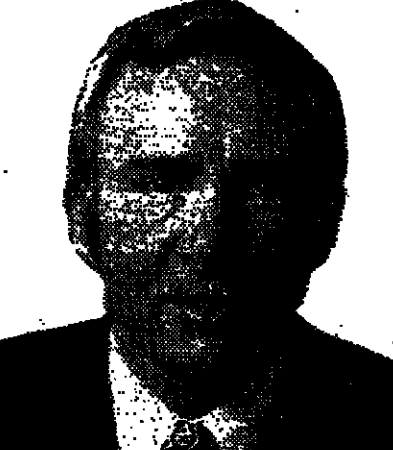
COMPARATIVE FIGURES	1974	1973	1972	1971	*1959
Turnover	£000's 13,446	£000's 10,945	£000's 7,765	£000's 4,910	£000's 462
Profit before tax	801	655	502	338	57
Total Net Assets	3,560	3,019	2,494	1,469	270

*First year as a public company

William Boulton (Holdings) Limited, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

INTERIM STATEMENT

Racal profit growth continues



E. T. Harrison, O.B.E., F.C.A., Chairman & Managing Director

the half-year ended 30th September 1974 amounted to £2,827,000 (1973 £1,329,000) an increase of 46.5%. Taxation for the half-year is estimated at £1,478,000.

In accordance with our usual practice, the above profit figure does not take into account international currency adjustments which this half-year have resulted in £30,000 being charged against the Currency Equalisation Reserve.

The Order Book continues at a record level and in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, the profit before taxation for the year ending 31st March 1975 will be in excess of £8,000,000.

An Interim Dividend of 3.4% net of tax (previous year 3% net of tax) will be paid on the 10th February 1975 to Shareholders on the Register at 3rd January 1975.

PROFIT BEFORE TAX	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	£1,582,000	£2,228,000	£3,165,000	£4,273,000	£6,247,000

1975 IN EXCESS OF £8,000,000



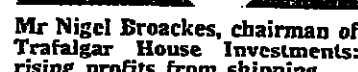
The Electronics Group

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RACAL ELECTRONICS LIMITED WESTERN ROAD BRACKNELL BERKSHIRE

Trafalgar House answers the sceptics



berger and Gosschalk's to cease trading from Jan. 23, the number of firms in the City has diminished 10 to 16 over the past year. This development is sizable. Where once six firms had a foot in the market, there are now only only three, some only two. The range of quoted is inevitably "narrowed. And particularly the situation is exacerbated by the heavy number in recent years—by jobbers' nerves as well as by heavy marketing that can become difficult at all at anything but prohibitive price. At such times, varied flexibility and moderate market set up into rigor morris. It is the reasons which induced London jobbers to trade, Berger and Gosschalk's are mundane, but the market is the market for that. Two years of "more or less" opening our heads above the latest reported profits. 3. showed a drop from \$17,000,000 pre-tax to \$13,000,000. The market is to be unpropitious to their contending with rising costs without the high-turnover business of the market. Senior Mr. Edmund Berger is used to this. He is way

Shareholders who managed to come by shares in the old Rolco Royce company for only a few pennies shortly after the 1971 crash have, of course, made a killing. But even shareholders who bought shortly before the crash at the ruling price of 75 9d could have done worse for their 39p. Yesterday's news of a further 15p a share payment in February will lift the total distribution—at that point to 50p a share. Meanwhile, the fall in the market—admittedly with a bull market in between—has been almost 50 per cent.

Furthermore, falling commodity prices can only increase the attraction to producers of trying to regulate the market by withholding supplies.

The cut back in oil supplies last winter is only the most dramatic example of a trend which has brought into sharp focus the critical need of many countries to ensure "access to supplies". That the embargoes on oil to the United States and the Netherlands were undertaken for foreign policy reasons

third world producers that for years they have received far below what they believe to be the "true" value of their exported raw materials which have provided the prosperity of the developed world. The inspiration provided by the success of the oil-producer cartel has coincided with a new political awakening among the developing countries. In an unprecedented action at the United Nations special session on raw materials last spring the assembly called for the "estab-

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lishment of a new international economic order".

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edical in these days of
slog in get back to
forthright self-interest
resident shareholders.

he past three years the
aim of the Glaxo annual
has been sundery by
mplaints of Harold
a valuable wholesale
ist from Belfast
bought one share in
in 1971 after the com-
pounded supplying him
lar drugs, one of the
given being that there
already enough whole-
supplying chemists,
from the Glaxo sub-
sidiary.

Chairman Austin Bide
to about a quarter
of complaints from
and his aides yesterday
cutting them short.

l, however, had taken the
on of holding his own
ference beforehand.

psbor of yesterday's pro-
is that Mitchell means
his case to the Director
of Fair Trading, John
a. If it comes to a litig
case, then both Glaxo
tches, say they're happy
by it.

of giving Mitchell what
its, this would seem to
only way an embarrassed
is going to get the
us Ulsterman off its

riday, Mitchell came
with a letter from 400
doctors and chemists
the Ulster Association
tion. In the past his
£14,000 lobbying share-
(albeit unsuccessfully)
e offered to buy Glaxo's
branch.

the Protestant work-
like, Mitchell offered to



Whitelaw first made a little slip about the contribution of the City to "our national economic problems", when he possibly meant its contribution to their solution.

This coup is typical of the kind of intelligent anticipation and careful planning that has carried Bell in Brie over 10 years from an old-established

just another four or five years, Callaway says. By that time he hopes to have some more potential winners in the Bell stable, including excursions into dance, insurance and travel.

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Dull start to account

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